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VIEW LISTINGS

Prevention Over Treatment

Navigating Dementia with Doctor Edward Hoffer

By Sam Bishop

On Tuesday night, the Mattapoisett Free Public Library was full of those who came to hear Doctor Edward Hoffer discuss dementia. The room was full, with quite literally standing room only. Over 50 were in attendance, with Hoffer beginning oration to the crowded room, "obviously a topic of no interest."

"I'd like to give you an overview of where we are, what we know, how to treat the problem, which I'll give you a spoiler alert, we're not very good at, and more importantly, spend some time on how to avoid it," the doctor continued. Doctor Edward Hoffer is from the SouthCoast, earned his undergraduate from MIT, his MD from Harvard, and completed his residency in cardiology at Mass General Hospital. He stated at the beginning he has no financial incentives as he sells no products.

Hoffer explained that dementia is a symptom, not a diagnosis. The added said symptom requires further analysis and study to ascertain a possible cause. He stated the problem is important and widely affects many, especially with age. He joked, "the biggest risk factor is age. You don't want it, die young." About 7 million in the US live with dementia, being 4% of those over 65, 11% of those over 75, and 20% of those over 85.

In terms of rising cases, he highlighted "incidence vs. prevalence." By 2060, cases will have doubled. He stated this is not due to it becoming inherently more common, but by the population living longer. Hoffer said cases are actually getting less common due to better health systems and practices overall. He cited those born in 1905 with a 23% prevalence of dementia compared to those born in 1945 with an 8% prevalence. New cases per 100K people are going down.

He moved on to discussion on when to suspect dementia to how to avoid false flags. Things to look out for, he listed, are short-term memory problems, forgetfulness paying bills or remembering appointments, trouble preparing meals, difficulty traveling (especially driving) in different, unfamiliar areas, and repeating questions. "No matter what the cause, dementia, just about any cause, gets steadily worse. There's not a light switch being turned. There is a steady, gradual worsening." he said.

Diagnoses are generally delayed 3.5 years. This, according to Hoffer, is mainly due to both doctor discomfort and patient rejection. Doctors generally are averse to diagnosing, as they are not able to offer much help, nor a real solution. Patients, on the other hand, do not seek to hear bad news.

As to some reversible causes of dementia, Hoffer listed thyroid disorders, B12 deficiency, medication side-effects (Hoffer mentioned the Beers Criteria or list. This is a clinical tool, available online, to identify improper or harmful medications), depression, hearing loss, sleep apnea, normal pressure hydrocephalus, and drug/alcohol

On the Cover: *One last look at a summer-day sunset was captured on Monday from Piney Point Beach Club in Marion. While daily highs and lows have fluctuated and visitors still make a weekly rush into the South Coast and Cape Cod on the hope that the next weekend will feel like summer, days are shorter, the sun sets sooner, and the calendar tells us it's time to turn the page. Photo courtesy Stephen Parziale*

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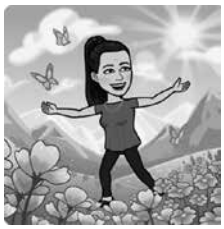

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abuse. These have been shown to increase the likelihood of dementia but can be curbed or eliminated entirely through some effort.

Also, relative to medications, the doctor recommended an annual review of all medications by your primary physician to detect and possible complications or unneeded drugs.

Now, onto treatment, with him saying "spoiler alert, we haven't got a great treatment. There is no treatment for most people. At best, treatment slows progression." However, things have gotten better with time in the medical field. In the last 4 years, three drugs have been approved by the FDA. These new drugs target beta-amyloid plaques in the brain, associated with dementia and Alzheimer's. Though they can be effective at slowing progression, Hoffer warned against their large risk. Along with being "hellishly expensive," he noted 7%-11% experience brain swelling (cerebral edema), 1%-0.5% brain bleeding (intercranial hemorrhage), and ~1% death due to these symptoms.

Finally, Hoffer highlighted what is arguably most important, prevention. "We can't really cure you, so what's much more important is prevention." Immediately, he stated, "almost unanimous consensus is exercise is the best thing to help your brain." and adding, "whatever is good for your heart, is good for the brain." He cited a British study those who avoided the car and walked instead were 20% less likely to develop dementia.

He remarked about something he had recently learned; that a few eggs a week is good for you and likely does not negatively impact cholesterol. He did, however, ward against red meat.

In tandem with word searches done by many to keep their brains going, Dr. Hoffer said, "anything that keeps your brain moving is very, very good." This includes socialization, technology use, reading, puzzles, games, and anything else requiring problem solving and complex thought.

The main takeaway from the talk was to focus on early prevention wherever possible. Eliminate unnecessary risks like inactivity and smoking, and keep your brain, and your body, moving. There may be no

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cure, but dementia can be defeated with its avoidance. If someone is diagnosed, there are many paths to slowing its progression and increasing the longevity of life and bettering its quality.

Doctor Edward Hoffer writes a weekly column for The Wanderer, though this was not related to the coverage of this talk.

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Making Fast Work of It

Rochester Memorial School Solar Array Update

By Sam Bishop

Rochester Memorial School's solar array is nearing completion. Though it is not online yet, the tall solar canopies are erected over the north parking lot of the school. The Rochester Planning Board, in August, approved a Site Plan Review and Special Permit for construction of the array to take place during the school year.

Construction started this month, with the contractor, Solect Energy Development of Hopkinton, expecting completion of the project by the end of December, just in time for the holiday school break.

Teachers at RMS have been told they will get their parking spaces back soon-ish. One hundred percent of the panels are mounted into the ground, with concrete poured around their bases. Last week, there was a site cleanup, and touchup painting was done. This week, trenching began for electrical conduits needed between each solar column. This is expected to be completed by the end of the month.

Following the completion of the site trenching, heavy equipment won't be necessary on site, per Solect Energy Development. In October, electrical work, mainly wiring, will commence. Panels need to be wired together and to the conduits. Lighting must be installed and wired

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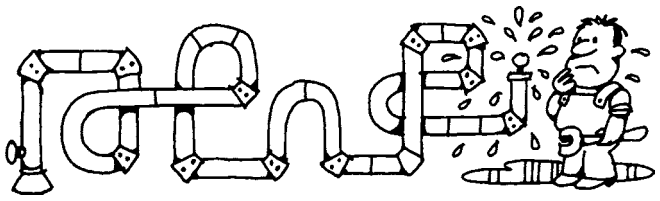

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underneath each canopy as well. Finally, electricity must flow to the school with wiring to the school's electrical room.

The big part is done, and in a few months, should everything go according to schedule, RMS will harness the power of the sun, the teachers will get their spots back, and student drop-off will go back to normal.

Construction Approved after 2011 Fire

Rochester Historic District Commission

By Michael J. DeCicco

Rochester's Historic District Commission on September 18 granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to the house that will fill the fire-ravaged lot at 28 Marion Road.

A fire destroyed the bakery and cafe there in 2011. In 2025, Acushnet engineer Nelson Bernardo had already received a building permit for a new home and had a bulldozer on site when he learned the parcel was in the town's Historic District and he needed a permit from the Historic District Commission.

The concerns the board expressed in its July 31 meeting with Bernardo focused on a roof pitch that would fit in with the architectural character of the district. Bernardo answered this concern on September 18 with a plan to change the roof pitch of his 34x40-square foot, two-story colonial-style house to a nine-pitch from his previous proposal for a six-pitch.

He said his other changes since the August meeting have included plans to install solar panels and

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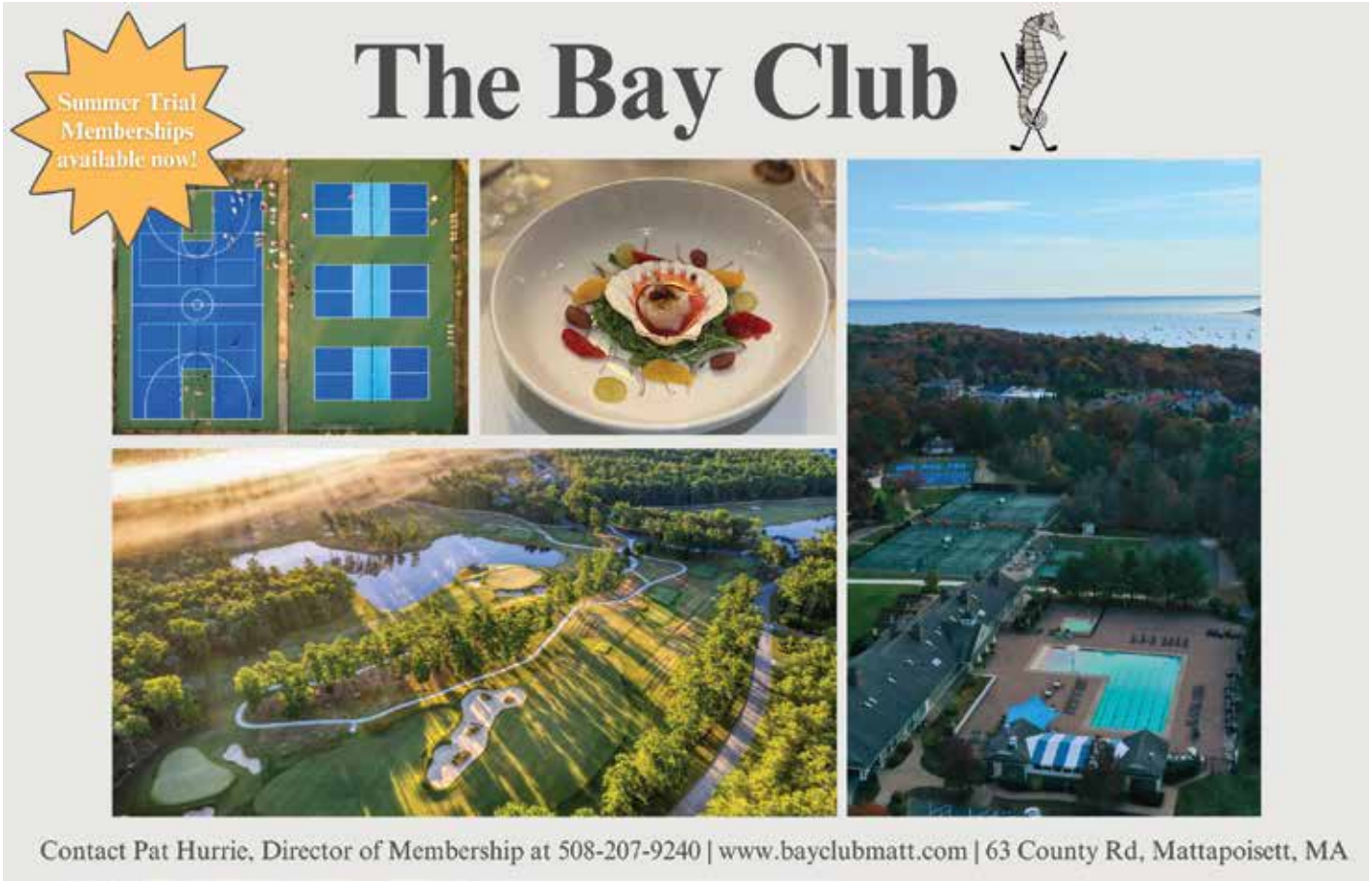
a white, 5-foot-tall privacy fence on the property's left side. Chair Matthew Monteiro said he had no problem with the fence because it is set perpendicular to public view. After no additional comments from the other members, the commission granted the permit swiftly and unanimously.

It's an appropriate design, Monteiro said after the vote, because it fits in with the character of the district. "And that's this commission's main task and goal," he said.

Planning Board member Paul Carr then asked how the communications problem that led Bernardo to be unaware he needed an Historic District permit is being resolved. Monteiro had explained in August that the



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permitting problem stemmed from both the new Building commissioner and the new Town Hall administrative assistant who were unaware the lot was in the Historic District. On September 18, Monteiro said he himself has smoothed out communications by providing more information to both the building inspector and the Town Hall administrator.

The Historic District Commission did not schedule its next meeting before adjourning.

Autumn is Upon Us

The Seaside Gardener

By Laura McLean

Well, it's officially fall, and I find myself mimicking the actions of a squirrel. My frenzy isn't for gathering nuts but rather getting garden chores accomplished before the weather goes south. Not that it's imminent, but there is still a lot to do.

The last gleanings of the garden await, such as picking the final round of blackberries and grapes that hang in purple profusions, and vegetables; not many but the remaining tomatoes, cucumbers, string beans and eggplant and the long-awaited potatoes (Yukon Gold and Red Pontiac). Even more important is just to enjoy the sunshine outdoors with pleasure-filled hours. You don't want to rush these things, yet the daylight is receding, and time is fleeting.

My first mission was to get some new perennials to plant in empty spaces in the garden borders, so I headed to Peckham's Nursery in Little Compton, enticed by their seasonal sale. I joined my friend Cecile who was on a similar mission to buy fall blooming plants. She is both a local realtor as well as being licensed in RI and took me on a tour of the Tiverton area - not that I personally am searching, but it's fun to explore.

We wended our way to the Tiverton Farmer's Market, and each got some fresh pickings as well as some unexpected goods. There is something delightful in the outdoor market. It's so much more than a vegetable stand. Finding the unusual makes shopping more of an adventure. In addition to the purveyors of farm-grown vegetables a host of other goods can be had, ranging from sauce to handcrafted jewelry, to artistic renderings, all while listening to a guitarist/singer perform. A few take-aways for me included: Mooseman's kettle corn in

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Join the market with its rotating selection of vendors on Sundays (May 18 - October 5) at Tiverton Town Farm Recreation Area, 3588 Main Road (RI-77) Tiverton from 10:00 am to 1:30 pm. There will be a Harvest Market on Sunday October 12 from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm at Sakonnet Vineyard, 162 West Main Road, Little Compton. The following Sunday, October 19, will feature the 3rd annual Garlic Roast at Tiverton Middle School, 10 Quintal Drive, Tiverton. For more information go to www.TivertonFarmersMarket.com.

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Fall is all about moving plants that didn't do well in their location and updating the border with plants that have been on the wish list or not necessarily on any list but irresistible. I particularly wanted to get plants to fill my three window boxes, which have stood bare since the pansies planted in spring faded. Though I do change out my boxes every summer there is not much forethought involved. I choose the plants based on my mood at the moment. Something catches my eye at the greenhouse, and I'm swept away.

One thing I appreciate about window boxes is their mutability. You can continually change the arrangements to suit the season or a new shade of house paint. I like to try new themes each year. My experiments with topiary and herbs like tri-color sage, thyme, rosemary and scented geraniums have been visually striking as well as fragrant. I have my favorite combinations but this time I wanted to strike for fall colors (with purple kale and dark leaved ornamental pepper, both annuals and perennials (yes perennials) and a strong central plant for each of the three boxes: a wonderful orange-color strawflower for one; a variegated geranium for another and for the central box a statuesque rosemary.

The choice of plant combinations seems limitless, especially if the boxes enjoy a good supply of sunshine. And you aren't restricted to annuals - many kinds of bulbs and miniature shrubs are appropriate for a permanent window box treatment. The question is not so much what to plant, rather what not to plant in this concentrated form of gardening.

For a look at some new and traditional takes, stroll through the village. There are some spectacular window boxes (in addition to many inspiring gardens) along Water and Main Streets as well as the little side streets. Summer is the best time to view these mini-theaters on display. But many are dressed up in the off season as well. One fine example is the local Post Office, where the Woman's Club Garden Group creates eye-pleasing arrangements throughout the year.

As I set about digging, planting, trimming, plotting and planning, I see myself mirrored in the frenetic, furry counterparts chattering and scampering around the trees and yard - similarly following their instincts. We will satisfactorily get through the months ahead - thanks to our purposeful actions.

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This Week In Revolutionary History...

By Sam Bishop

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the colonial Province of Massachusetts Bay. Last week, there was a minor mutiny crushed by Nathaneal Greene, the Council of War was convened to discuss an assault on Boston, and Bennedict Arnold rides north to conduct a campaign into Quebec, with the hopes of swaying the Canadians to the revolutionary cause.

On September 17, 1775 (the Constitution would be signed on September 17, 1787, 12 years later), Washington shifts his focus west for seemingly the first time in a while. He writes to Williamsburg, Virginia, then the capital of the state/colony, and states his land in the Ohio Territory have not been adequately developed. Washington had procured grants for around 9,000 acres of land on the Ohio River and 10,000 acres on the Kanawha River in 1772 under the stipulation that the land would be adequately improved and developed in three years' time. He states his time away from Virginia have made it hard to complete this task.

He states he has sent servants and many slaves to the territory on numerous occasions, the groups of which have been halted by Native American groups. He complains over the loss of tools, slaves and men, and asks for the help of the Virginia government in retaining his land rights. In this same letter, he remarks on his condition near Boston, saying, "The enemy and we are very near neighbors. Our advanced works are not more than five or 600 yards from theirs, and the main body of the two armies scarce a mile. We see everything that

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passes, and that is all we can do, as they keep close on the two peninsulas of Boston and Charlestown, both of which are surrounded with ships of war [&] floating Batteries, and the narrow necks of land leading into them fortified, in such a manner as not to be forced without a very considerable slaughter, if practicable at all."

The next day, still facing the never-ending supply crisis, Washington writes to Nicholas Cooke of Rhode island, asking of the whereabouts of the gunpowder recently stolen from Bermuda. He cautions against sending another expedition to the island, saying the previous trip would not "have left any quantity behind worth the risk & expense of such a voyage." Instead, he recommends paying a visit to France and deepening a supply line there. Specifically, an expedition to the port city of Bayonne in southern France, just on the Spanish border. He believes "the scheme appears so feasible, that I should be glad to see it executed." However, being recently granted the command and powers he holds at the head of the Continental Army, he adds, "at the same time I must add that I am in some doubt as to the extent of my powers to appropriate the public money here to this purpose."

In a timeless message at the end of his note to Cooke, Washington asks of his missing mail, saying "P.S. No southern mail arriving. Last Saturday we are apprehensive it has again fallen into the enemies' hands. If it was not attended with too much trouble should be glad you would cause inquiry to be made - if by any accident the letters are at Providence, you will please to forward them by express." Eventually, the letters would be tracked by Cooke through the Post-Master to a post officer who went to a tavern and eventually forwarded the letters back to a Cambridge marshal who was in the process of delivering the mail.

On September 19, Washington writes a permit to the merchants Clark & Nightingale of Providence, saying "Whereas the necessities of the army under my command for ammunition are so great as to require all possible supplies." He permits the merchant company to procure arms, ammunition, and powder from the West-Indies. Two smaller and speedy sloops, the *Neptune* and *Fly*, are enlisted for this effort.

Speaking of ships, on September 22, there is a mutiny aboard the American schooner *Hannah*, the first ship of what would become the Continental Navy. In his General Orders for the day, he recommends harsh punishments and court martial for the sailors. 13 are sentenced to lashes, saying, "prisoner Joseph Seales receive thirty-nine Lashes upon his bare back and be drum'd out of the army," and another 21 men receive fines. The mutiny was in reaction to a recaptured ship, the *Unity*, being returned to its previous owner, rather than being claimed as a part of the Navy.

On September 23, the Continental Congress in Philadelphia meets and orders the purchase of woolen

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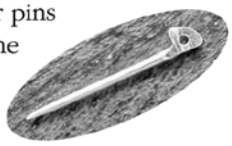
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Does the MAHA Movement Truly Care about America's Children?

What Does The Doctor Say?

By Dr. Edward Hoffer

The Trump administration recently released a long-promised report decrying the sorry state of the health of American children and saying how it planned to change this.

They correctly begin by noting that "Despite outspending peer nations by more than double per capita on healthcare, the United States ranks last in life expectancy among high-income countries – and suffers higher rates of obesity, heart disease, and diabetes." Unfortunately, they then largely focus their prescriptions on the wrong solutions.

The four areas on which they propose to work to improve our children's health are ultra-processed food; chemicals in our environment; the lack of exercise due to the digital age; and over-medication and excessive vaccination.

I support (and have written about) reducing the over-abundance of ultra-processed food, particularly the use of high fructose corn syrup in our diet, but to date the RFK Jr-run FDA has spent its energy on trivia such as red food coloring rather than going after big agriculture and big food.

Our food supply does contain too many pesticides, but hunger and malnutrition threaten more American children than do pesticides, and the gutting of the social safety net by the Trump administration will make this problem worse.

More exercise is good for us all, children and adults, so we should be expanding access to outdoor spaces, including national parks, not limiting them as has been done with cutbacks to the National park service.

What is most telling about this report is what it does NOT cover. The chemical that is the biggest threat to health is nicotine and the carcinogens in cigarettes, but there is not a word in this report about tackling the problem of youth vaping, which has been shown to lead to nicotine addiction and life-long smoking.

The insistence on reducing childhood vaccination, a cause that has made millions for Kennedy through his referrals of plaintiffs to class-action suits, is an enormous threat to children's health. The disinformation spread by Kennedy and his allies has led to reduced rates of vaccination. Fewer children are being vaccinated, which means that diseases once thought eliminated, such as measles and whooping cough, are already making a resurgence. Thousands of American children, and millions world-wide, will die if the anti-vax movement holds sway.

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Finally, no mention in the report is made of the leading cause of death in U.S. children and adolescents: death from motor vehicle accidents and firearms. Unlike every other western country, an American teenager is much likely to die by suicide or homicide with a gun than from illness. If RFK Jr and his followers truly cared about America's children, gun control would be top of their priority list. Its absence says it all.

Edward Hoffer MD is Associate Professor of Medicine, part-time, at Harvard.

Dog Euthanasia Ordered

Marion Select Board

By Jeffrey D. Wagner

The Marion Select Board at its September 16 meeting voted to euthanize a dog that attacked and injured a pizza-delivery person on July 29.

One-year-old Gordy, who by accounts from family members, is protective of his family but not good with strangers, poses a risk, according to the Select Board. There are playgrounds and children within this Point Street neighborhood, according to board members at the public hearing, which took place at the Marion Police station.

Animal Control Officer Susan Connor says she responded to the incident after dog owner Spencer Mello, of 968 Point Street, wrestled the dog away from the delivery person, according to Mello's relative Amorin Johnson, who lives in the home.

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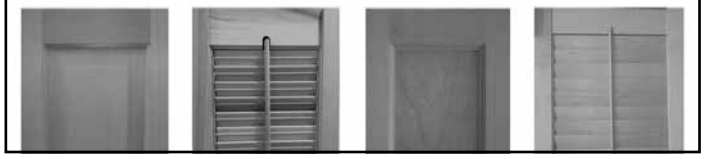


Connor said she observed that the dog was aggressive and apprehensive. She asked that the dog be put under quarantine for a 10-day period and be ordered to wear a muzzle and that a fence with a solid gate be placed in the front of the home.

Connor said she returned to the property and observed the dog outside on a tethered leash, similar to cable trolleys, and with a loose-fitting collar.

Connor said she observed one "beware of dog warning sign," but no muzzle.

"I am reluctant to go to that house, and the dog is clearly wary of strangers," Connor said.

Johnson, who appeared at the hearing in place of Mello, said that on that July day, the delivery worker, Rumeysa Durmus, came on to the porch to deliver the pizza. The door to the home was slightly open and the dog came out.

Johnson said Durmus screamed and that triggered an attack response from Gordy, who injured Durmus' right arm. Durmus participated in the hearing via Zoom and said she still does not have full use of her right arm. Johnson pleaded with the Select Board to allow the family to take more precautions, including training for the dog.

"He's great with us, He is so protective of our children," Johnson said.

Connor told the board that this attack wasn't the only one.

In other board news, neighbors of the Maritime Center, which houses the Harbormaster Headquarters, complained of lights shining 24 hours from that center, as well as constant boat lights from the harbor. Cindy Fox and Mal Durkee spoke for several residents who have complained of light pollution in the area. "It looks like Las Vegas from our side (of the harbor)," Fox said. "Why are we paying taxpayer money to light this building all night?"

Some solutions were proposed, including removing the lights and replacing them with dimmable ones. Select Board Chair Randy Parker said there should be a phone app to take off the lights when needed. Town Administrator Geoffrey Gorman said he would speak with the town's electrical inspector about some of these ideas.

In more positive news, the Marion Garden Club received the go-ahead from the Select Board to finance through the general treasury water and sprinkler systems for town gardens. The Marion Garden Club has approximately seven aesthetic gardens around town but needs help with the water bill and sprinklers.

Club members met with Parker and board member Norm Hills and asked for financial assistance for sprinklers for approximately five of these gardens, which need regular water maintenance. Club members said the group mostly relies on fundraising and volunteer efforts but needs approval for use of town water and

maintenance of sprinkler systems. They said the annual water costs are approximately $800, and the costs of maintaining sprinkler systems are just over $4,000 annually.

Select Board members, which serve as the town's Water and Sewer commissioners, took no exception with the request. Parker said these gardens help maintain the town's appearance and are an asset for its aesthetic appeal.

The next meeting of the Marion Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 7, at 6:00 pm in the Marion Police Department.

Old Colony Pitches Plan

Mattapoisett Select Board

By Marilou Newell

With the Mattapoisett Fire Station wired with enough technology to host multiple meetings simultaneously, the Mattapoisett Select Board hosted members of the Old Colony Regional Vocational-Technical High School's new construction team, which gave an in-depth presentation of the new school building currently in early planning stages.

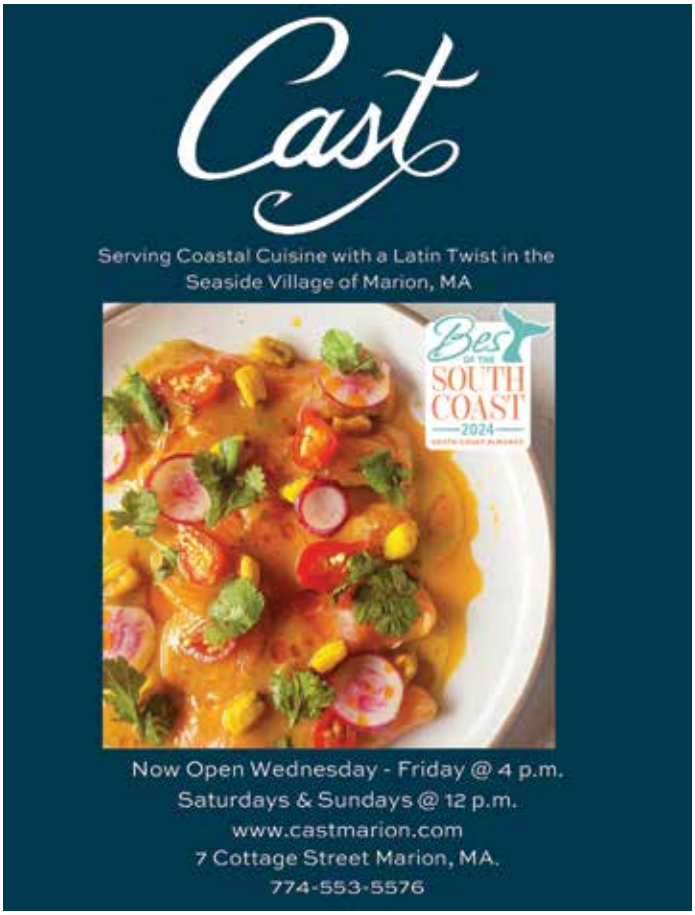
Superintendent Aaron Polansky was the first to speak, outlining the current state of the state-run, Rochester-based school that opened in 1975. While the building has served its member communities effectively for decades, the most cost-effective way to move forward, Polansky noted, was to start over again with a brand-new structure. He spoke passionately about how well the school prepares its students with both educational opportunities and the greater world after graduation. As he listed the school's many fine attributes, he also talked about its structural challenges.

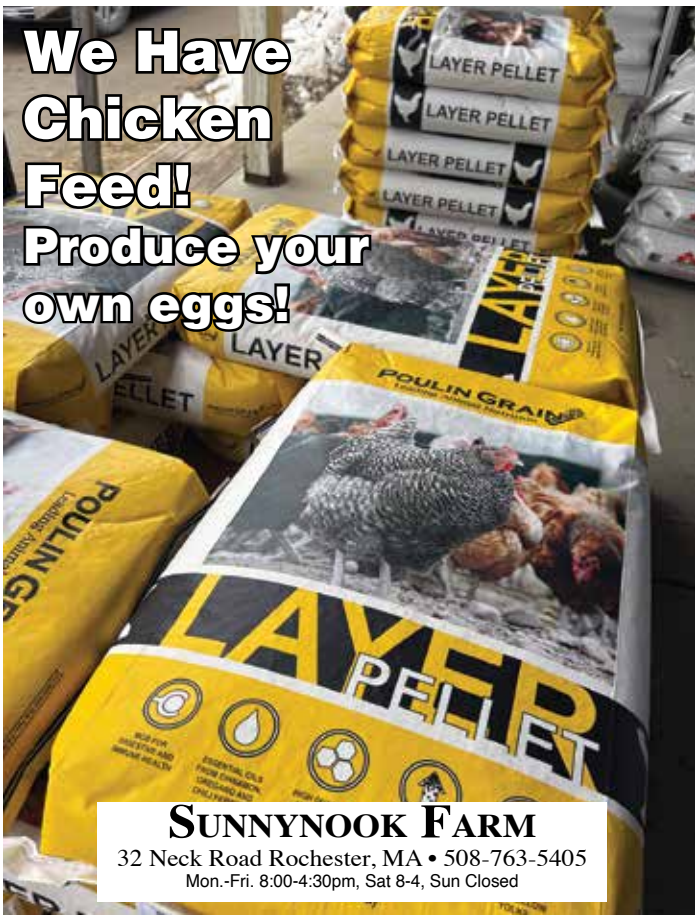
Yet, despite serious difficulties with potable water, limited to no ability for expansion of its footprint, HVAC limitations, and toilet facilities that are sorely lacking, the number of applications received every year exceeds the number of slots available, Polansky said. The school serves five member communities (Mattapoisett, Acushnet, Rochester, Carver, and Lakeville) and consistently receives approximately 300 applications for the 100 available slots. Polansky said, "We do a lot with a little." He said, in a four-year period, some 776 students will pass through the doors of the aging institution.

As for the minimum square footage mandated by the state for each student, Polansky said, "we do not meet that standard."

Shifting gears, Polansky talked about what a newly built school will mean to future students. He talked about technological upgrades but also pointed to practical matters such as grease traps that function and a layout that would give the public better access.

He talked about new programing such as plumbing and dentistry and the need to upgrade all infrastructural systems, not the least of which would be a new water supply.





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Driving home the most significant aspect of the proposed new school, the funding, Polansky said that Mattapoisett's portion would be $35.37 per quarter on a 30-year bond and that rates are based on number of students enrolled from the town.

The school is working with the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) for grant money to support the $288,743,683 estimated price tag. Polanski said that MSBA grants coupled with contributions from member towns will be needed.

The MSBA is funded by money from the state's sales tax with a 1% dedicated revenue stream.

In other matters, the board accepted the resignation of long-time Finance Committee member Gary Johnson with regret. He was thanked for his years of service.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Select Board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14. Mattapoisett's Special Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 4, at 1:00 pm in the Old Rochester Regional High School gymnasium.

Antassawamock Road Rights Questioned

Mattapoisett Conservation Commission

By Marilou Newell

During the September 22 meeting of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission, a Notice of Intent filing from Jeffrey and Julie Haywood, 8 Nashawena Road, brought into question the applicants' property rights. The Haywoods were represented by David Davignon of Schneider, Davignon & Leone, Incorporated, outlining a project which included the construction of an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) on the property.

There came into question whether or not the applicant could utilize a paper-road contiguous to the construction location. The properties in question are located in the Antassawamock neighborhood, a private beach colony with certain rights and restrictions.

A letter received from the association president David Behenna was read into the minutes of the meeting to record the association's position in the matter. The letter reads in part: "I'm writing to request that the Commission continue to another date the hearing on this." Behenna continued writing that a continuation would give the association time to study the matter of ownership of Samoset Road, which the applicant proposes to alter. Behanna wrote that association members have a right to use all roadways within the association. He wrote that a continuation would give both the applicant and the association time to discuss the matter with the association's board of directors.

Before acting on the Notice of Intent, the commission continued the filing until its October 27 meeting while, at the same time, conditioning the project as presented. Chair Mike King noted that the property issues raised by the association were Land Court matters not within the jurisdiction of the state Wetlands Protection Act or otherwise under the purview of the commission.

Davignon said that the project itself is within the bordering vegetated wetlands, that a number of trees will need to be removed, and that the plan needs to be vetted by the Zoning Board of Appeals. The case was continued to October 27.

A Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Clint Paddock and Ann Rich received a Negative Box 2 decision for the installation of an inground hot tub at 5 Pine Street.

A sewer-system upgrade filed by Robert Bourdoon (trustee) was approved, located at 6 Meadowbrook Lane.

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The long-anticipated upgrades and renovation to Long Wharf came before the commission on this night. Attending remotely, Brian Post of Childs Engineering brought up the potential for the use of "flowable" material being used to plug cracks and holes anticipated when construction takes place.

There was immediate pushback from commissioners David Lawrence and David Nicolosi when Post presented flowable materials. Lawrence said that such materials contained high levels of concrete dust and fine sand versus aggregate, saying, "...it will wash away." After considerable discussion, Post was told that, if the commission were to vote on the Notice of Intent filing at this time, it would fail. Instead, it was determined that

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Post would review the commission's concerns with his staff and return on October 27 with alternative materials for the commission's consideration.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Conservation Commission is scheduled for Monday, October 27, at Town Hall, 16 Main Street.

Final Phase of Highway Building

Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals

By Sam Bishop

The Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals met on Thursday, September 18 to go over two petitions: one from a private resident on West Hill Road and another from the town's Highway Department.

Garrett Bauer of the Mattapoisett Highway Department presented their plan for the construction of a 2,222 square-foot addition to the rear of the existing Highway Barn at 5 Mendell Road within the Mattapoisett River Aquifer Protection District. Bauer mentioned the current building was constructed in 1950 and said the proposed addition is the "last of two phases of a renovation plan of the whole highway facility, which started back in 2018."

Included in the work on the addition, Bauer explained construction would begin with the roof runoff being removed on the main building and a new trench and tie-in will be added to the front of the building. He said this would help with water recharge into the local aquifer. The addition would have a similar system added.

Much of the addition would be used to hold equipment and cranes, though the Highway Department said traffic patterns would not be altered as no new equipment is being procured. There will also be an ADA-compliant bathroom. Currently, there are 10 employees, nine men and one woman. This addition will allow two gendered restrooms.

It was stated funding for this project was approved at Town Meeting, being a Betterment. The new room will allow much of the expensive equipment, currently stored outside, to be protected from the elements.

The addition was approved with a unanimous vote.

Early in the meeting, Christopher and Carol Brennan of 18 West Hill Road sought a Special Permit for the construction of a 12.5-foot x 22-foot screened-in porch/mudroom off the existing dwelling. The board mentioned the new addition would only increase the dwelling's lot coverage by around 2%. The ZBA approved the Special Permit without question and a unanimous vote.

The next meeting of the Mattapoisett Zoning Board of Appeals is scheduled for Thursday, October 16 at 6:00 pm at Town Hall, 16 Main Street.

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Harbor-Related Subcommittee Floated

Marion Marine Resources Commission

By Jeffrey D. Wagner

The Marion Marine Resources Commission discussed a variety of items at its September 17 meeting at

Maritime Center. Topics ranged from funding for some of the aging infrastructure to light pollution coming from the new center building at Island Wharf.

Harbormaster Adam Murphy said the department has a list of capital items, but funding sources are not always available. For instance, the storm drains from the harbor are outdated and need plumbing work and there are two outdated trucks within the fleet, but there is only enough funding to replace one of them.

At the Select Board meeting the day before, two residents discussed how many neighbors along the harbor are not happy with the constant lighting at night from the new center. Some of the potential solutions are using dimmer lighting or using a phone app to turn the lights off when not needed.

Murphy mentioned there are safety hazards connected to dimmers or no lighting, especially if personnel needs to access the building at night and report an incident along the harbor.

Though the MRC discussed the need to update some piers and infrastructure along the harbor, the commission discussed how the new harbor police boat is being painted and will soon arrive back at the harbor. The old boat will be auctioned off, according to Murphy.

The MRC also discussed the Select Board's request to form a subcommittee that would look at issues connected to the Marion harbor and uses of the harbor.

MRC members joked that the scope of this subcommittee is still being brainstormed so the direction or goal of this committee is still in the works. However, members agreed that some at-large members not connected to the MRC, with skills in boating or similar areas, would be an asset to that subcommittee.

Last summer a subcommittee met to discuss issues connected to parking in that area connected to harbor and summer activities. That subcommittee's recommendations led to some parking changes.

MRC members indicated that this new committee would likely build upon the parking subcommittee's work.

The next meeting of the Marion Marine Resources Commission is scheduled for Wednesday, October 15, at 6:00 pm at the Maritime Center conference room at Island Wharf.

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Drainage Complicates Property Split

Rochester Planning Board

By Michael J. DeCicco

The Rochester Planning Board Tuesday began another night of continuances by reviewing a change of plan for the Special Permit and Site Plan Review application to install a ground-mounted, large-scale, solar array at 600 Snipatuit Road.

Greg Sampson, representing the applicant Logging Swamp Solar, told the board NSTAR does not have switch gear big enough to handle the power capacity for such a large project. The plan covers 35 acres of a 2,000-acre wooded property bordered on one side by

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Northern Avenue and surrounded by a 350-acre swamp. The developer will need to run two cables to the array down the access road, but town regulations will not allow that to be done on one property. The project will have to split onto two properties.

Sampson asked the board to allow the developer to do that property-line split and permit a deed restriction to prevent a house from being built on that split property in the future. The split would also require following the 100-foot setback regulation, he added. He said the developer would ask for a waiver of that requirement.

Chair Arnold Johnson said he did not have a problem with this proposal. He was more concerned with the town regulation that water drainage from one lot can't go onto another. The board continued the hearing to October 28 after Sampson noted the plan that he showed the board Tuesday was not the fully revised version. The full revision will be available by the next hearing date.

The board's hearing on the request to modify the Definitive Subdivision Plan permit for the previously approved Snipatuit Pond Estates at Gerrish and Bishop roads by swapping two parcels of open space to create a buildable lot on one of them was also continued, upon the applicant's request, until December 9.

Next, the Site Plan Review application hearing for a 68-unit, age 55-and-over, senior-living apartment building at 22 Cranberry Highway within Rochester was continued to October 14 and the deadline to render a decision extension to October 22.

The latter was a request from consulting engineer Joseph Cordeiro, as he and the developer work to refine the plan.

The night ended with the board's review of a new Site Plan Review application hearing for a townhouse development with a total of 15 buildings and 44 units, also within Rochester Crossroads. The plan here is for three-unit and two-unit buildings with a drive under the garage and a driveway parking spot, individual septic systems, site lighting and landscaping and underground utilities connected to the senior-living project.

Joseph Sanda, representing developer Ken Steen Realty, said waivers being asked from the regulations include the required setbacks between septic and stormwater treatment system and the number of parking spaces required per unit. Four three-bedroom apartments are part of the plan. Each unit will have three parking spaces available. This hearing was continued to October 28.

In other action, the board continued to October 28 the Site Plan Review and Special Permit hearing on the construction of a floating and ground-mounted solar array at 53 Dexter Lane.

The board continued to October 14 the Definitive Subdivision application to permit turning an 8.67-acre parcel at 19 County Road into three lots, involving a plan to retain the existing house lot and create two new lots for additional four-bedroom residential housing.

The board recommended the Select Board utilize the town's option to purchase land coming out of Chapter 61A, agricultural-land protection at 53 Dexter Lane. Board member Ben Bailey said more land in town such as this land near where a solar array is already being planned should be better preserved.

The Rochester Planning Board's next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm at Town Hall, 1 Constitution Way.

Sippican, ORR Teachers Honored

Marion School Committee

By Jeffrey D. Wagner

The Marion School Committee on September 18 kicked off its first meeting of the year at Sippican Elementary School with recognition of new staff, honoring staff with long years of service, and highlighting both the academic and other achievements of the Old Rochester Regional School District.

The theme, teachers and staff who are hired within the district want to remain there, as school officials highlighted new programs and the district's distinction as one that is inclusive.

School Superintendent Michael Nelson noted that the district was named by the state for its standout inclusive education practices, and Dr. Shari Fedorowicz said the new math program is making grounds within the district. In fact, on October 24, Sippican will be hosting a parent-student

math night.

Nelson received approval from the School Committee to repurpose several broken or outdated items, including 75 desks, several bookcases and easels, among a long list of other items. Nelson said the motivation behind the moves will be to maximize classroom space for students and staff.

The School Committee took a brief recess from the meeting and toured the Sippican building. School Committee Chair April Nye mentioned that this strategy is paying off. She noted that, although the district is less than a month into the school year, halls and classrooms at Sippican were decorated with new student artwork, showcasing the enthusiasm of students and staff.

The new hires include: Human Resources Manager Sarah George; Receptionist/Administrative Assistant Lucy Fuller; Special Education Teacher Tricia Silvia; School Adjustment Counselor Kristina Tetreault; and Art Teacher Margaret Harrington.

The following Sippican Elementary teachers were honored for their years of service: Ashley Sweatland (15 years); Donna Dunn (25); Jean Roseman (25); and Emily Halkett (Bourgeois) (30).

For the Old Rochester Regional School District, the following educators were honored for their longevity to the district: Jill Henesey (10 years); Cheryl Almeida (20); Silas Coellner (25); Michael Devoll and Bill Tilden (25).

Nelson said he and other administrators have conducted walkthroughs of classrooms and noted the professionalism and skill of new staff members. He and other officials also noted that many staff are former students or residents within the district who have chosen to work within the ORR School District for its vibrant and strong learning environment.

School officials issued a reminder to parents to sign on to the school portal and update any forms. They also encouraged volunteers; a key part of education at the elementary level, and parent involvement toward stronger education for students.

The next meeting of the Marion School Committee is scheduled for Thursday, October 30, at 6:30 pm at Sippican Elementary School.

Sticklers Look to Build on Fast Start

Sports Roundup

By Aiden Comorosky

Field Hockey

The Old Rochester Regional High School field hockey team hosted Fairhaven on September 18 and won 2-0. Kennedy Tripp and Caroline Houdelette each scored a goal, as they were both named the players of the game. ORR's junior varsity also won 2-0, as Kennedy Zussy and Morgan Paiva scored goals. The Bulldogs are off to a great start for the season and took a 6-1 record into Tuesday's road game at Dighton-Rehoboth (0-5).

Boys Soccer

The Bulldogs hosted West Bridgewater on September 17 and won 4-1. Brendan Foster scored 2 goals and had an assist, as he was named the player of the game. Garrett Ignacio and Sibley Casi also scored. ORR's JV squad also won, 5-0. Captain James Jadlowic scored 2 goals, as Andrew Herbert, Sam Long, and Ben Welter scored as well. Josh Marcolini got the shutout in goal. Old Rochester took a 4-2-1 record into Wednesday's home game against Somerset Berkley (6-1).

Cross Country

Old Rochester faced Bishop Stang on September 17. ORR's boys won 24-31, and the girls won 17-46. Noah Robert-Howley ran a 17:57 5k race, and Ryan Calderone ran an 18:04, a 46-second improvement from his last race, earning runner-of-the-meet recognition. For the

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girls, Annalise Milhench ran a 21:14, and her sister Ella Milhench ran a 21:44 and was named a runner of the meet. The Bulldogs' next meet will be held on Thursday, September 25, at Apponequet.

Girls Volleyball

The Bulldogs traveled to West Bridgewater on September 17 and won 3-0 (25-20, 25-10, 25-21). Kaitlyn Rodrigues had 5 aces, 12 service points and 10 digs, while Maya Morrison had 18 assists and 4 aces. Unbeaten ORR took a 7-0 (4-0 South Coast Conference) record into Wednesday's match at Somerset Berkley (4-2).

Girls Soccer

Old Rochester played at West Bridgewater on September 17 and won 2-0. Goals were scored by Maddie Hardy and Kate Thomsen. The Bulldogs were 4-2 heading into Wednesday's game at Somerset Berkley (4-0-1).

Golf

The Bulldogs played at Bishop Stang on September 17 and won 143-173 in stroke play. Jack Czerkowicz was the medalist, shooting a 1-over-par, 9-hole round of 37 and was named player of the match. The Bulldogs were undefeated heading into Wednesday's match at West Bridgewater (4-5).

Football

Old Rochester played at undefeated Fairhaven on September 19 and fell by a 42-14 score. The 0-3 Bulldogs will be looking for their first win on Friday, September 26, on home field against Dartmouth.

ORRHS Receives National Banner Recognition from Special Olympics

Superintendent Michael S. Nelson and Principal Michael Devoll are proud to announce that Special Olympics North America is awarding Old Rochester Regional High School with National Banner recognition for its work to provide inclusive sports and activities for students with and without intellectual disabilities.

Old Rochester Regional High School was one of only 17 schools in Massachusetts and 217 nationwide to achieve this status for the 2024-25 school year. The high school was recognized by Special Olympics' national certifying body, based on the school's Special Olympics

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Unified Champion School programming, which it officially established during the 2020-21 school year.

Old Rochester Regional High School earned the National Banner recognition by meeting Special Olympics' 10 national standards of excellence for inclusion, advocacy and respect, for its work in the areas of sports, leadership and whole school engagement opportunities, resulting in a school environment that promotes inclusion and respect for all. To receive the recognition, National Banner schools also need to demonstrate their Unified Champion Schools programs are self-sustainable.

"Congratulations to Old Rochester Regional High School for receiving National Banner recognition from Special Olympics North America," said Patti Doherty, Vice President of Schools and Community Development for Special Olympics Massachusetts, in an announcement to the school district. "The athletes, partners, students, coaches, volunteers, teachers, staff and administration at Old Rochester Regional High School have all played key roles in creating a social climate where everyone feels included and respected for who they are."

ORRHS has offered unified basketball and unified track for boys and girls in all high school grade levels, as well as those in the district's 18-22 program, along with other athletic activities. The unified teams consist of students with and without intellectual disabilities, who come together in partnership and support one another.

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Local Cable Programming

ORCTV

Check www.orctv.org for the latest updates to the schedule.

PUBLIC ACCESS
Comcast Channel 9
Verizon Channel 36

Thursday September 25, 2025
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
8:30 AM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Anne Webb
9:30 AM Rochester Historical Society - Cemeteries, Genealogy & The Revolutionary War
10:30 AM Sippican Historical Society - Celebrating the Archive
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
1:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
2:00 PM The Collective Chat
2:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
3:00 PM Buzzards Bay Music Fest - Chamber Music
4:30 PM Buzzards Bay Music Fest - Orchestra
6:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
6:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
7:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US
7:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
8:00 PM NolanFest 2025
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Friday September 26, 2025
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
8:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
9:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Global US
9:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
10:00 AM Southcoast Matters
11:30 AM Easton Fire Department - Close Before You Doze
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Rochester Affordable Housing Inc ADU Presentation
2:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
3:30 PM The Collective Chat
3:00 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
3:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
4:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - JJoan Thacher Tiffany
5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women's Involvement in the History of Preservation in New England
6:00 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Amazing Animal Ambassadors
7:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM Paltrocast with Darren Paltrowitz
9:00 PM A Conversation With…
9:30 PM Fur, Fins and Feathers
10:00 PM For Your Health
10:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
11:30 PM Classic Movies

Saturday September 27, 2025
6:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartoon Festival
9:30 AM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Annual Pops Concert
10:30 AM Easton Fire Department - Close Before You Doze
11:00 AM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
11:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
12:00 PM Mid-Day Movie
2:30 PM The Human Truth - with Chuck McIntyre
3:00 PM The Collective Chat
3:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
4:00 PM Sippican Historical Society Oral History - Anne Webb
5:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women Involvement in the History of New England
6:00 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Amazing Animals Ambassadors
7:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
8:30 PM Paltrocast - with Darren Paltrowitz
9:00 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
9:30 PM A Conversation with…
10:00 PM Beacon Hill Report
10:30 PM Gay USA
11:00 PM Classic Movies

Sunday September 28, 2025
7:00 AM Lamb of God Christian Church
8:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church
9:00 AM First Congregational Church of Rochester
10:00 AM St Gabriel's Church
11:00 AM Easton Fire Department - Close Before You Doze
11:30 AM For your Health
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
1:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
2:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US
2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Shift
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
3:30 PM NolanFest 2025
7:00 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Annual Pops Concert
8:30 PM Buzzards Bay Musicfest - Swing Band
10:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Jazz Through the Decades
11:30 PM Classic Movies

Monday September 29, 2025
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
8:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow Today
9:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Global US
9:30 AM Deutsche Welle - Focus on Europe
10:00 AM Deutsche Welle - Shift
10:30 AM A Conversation With…
11:00 AM For Your Health
11:30 AM Money Matters
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Beacon Hill Report
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters
2:30 PM Sidewalks Entertainment
3:00 PM Paltrocast with Darren Paltrowitz
3:30 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
4:30 PM The Human Truth
5:00 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Annual Pops Concert
6:30 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
7:30 PM Sippican Historical Society - Women's Involvement in the History of Preservation in New England
8:30 PM Marion Natural History Museum - Amazing Animal Ambassadors
10:00 PM The Collective Chat
10:30 PM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Tuesday September 30, 2025
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM For Your Health: Nicotine Pouches
8:30 AM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
9:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment
9:30 AM Mike Paige Doodle Club
10:00 AM Saturday Morning Cartooning
10:30 AM The Collective Chat
11:00 AM The Jeannine Hunt Experience
11:30 AM In the Toy Box
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:00 PM Easton Fire Department - Close Before You Doze
1:30 PM Miss New Bedford Insider
2:00 PM The Human Truth with Chuck McIntyre
2:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Tomorrow and Today
3:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Euromaxx
3:30 PM Deutsche Welle - Global US
4:00 PM Deutsche Welle - Focus On Europe
4:30 PM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
5:00 PM Four Deep Sports Talk
6:00 PM Sippican Historical Society - Historical What If's with Kirt Mead
8:00 PM The Beacon Hill Report
9:00 PM Reeling: The Movie Review Show
10:00 PM Gay USA
11:00 PM Classic Movie

Wednesday October 1, 2025
7:00 AM Seniorcize
7:30 AM Deutsche Welle - In Good Shape
8:00 AM Cape Conversations
8:30 AM For Your Health
9:00 AM Two Grannies on the Road
10:00 AM Sidewalks Entertainment
10:30 AM Paltrocast with Darren Paltrowitz
11:00 AM Mattapoisett Congregational Church
12:00 PM What's Linda Cooking?
12:30 PM Cooking Healthy with Coastline
1:30 PM Southcoast Matters TV
2:00 PM Marion Veg - with Barbie Burr and Brooke Johnson
2:30 PM Money Talk Tuesday
3:00 PM A Conversation With…
3:30 PM Tri-County Symphonic Band - Annual Pops Concert
5:30 PM Beacon Hill Report
6:00 PM Building the Future
6:30 PM Pete on the Street
7:00 PM World Fusion Show
7:30 PM Buzzards Bay Music Fest - Orchestra
9:00 PM Buzzards Bay Music Fest - Chamber Music

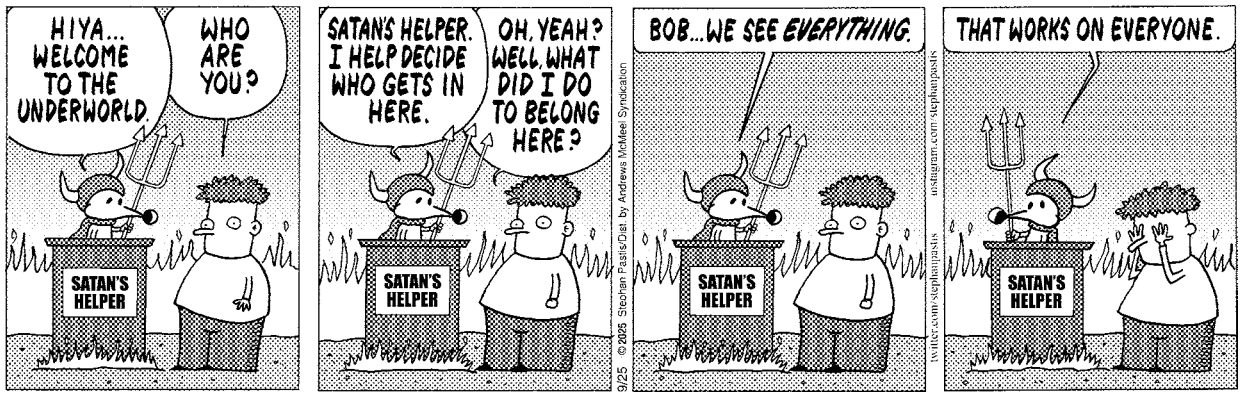
MARION GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 26
Verizon Channel 39
Daily Schedule
7:00 AM Marion Board of Selectmen
8:00 AM Marion Conservation Commission
9:00 AM Marion Planning Board
11:00 AM Marion Zoning Board of Appeals
11:30 AM Marion School Committee
1:00 PM Marion Open Space Committee
2:30 PM Marion Finance Committee
3:30 PM Marion Board of Health
5:00 PM Marion Affordable Housing Trust
6:00 PM Marion Marine Resource Commission
7:30 PM Marion Water and Sewer Commission
9:30 PM Marion Board of Selectmen
10:30 PM Marion Conservation Commission
11:30 PM Marion Planning Board

ROCHESTER GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 26
Verizon Channel 40
Daily Schedule
7:00 AM Rochester Board of Selectmen
7:30 AM Rochester Conservation Commission
8:30 AM Rochester Planning Board
9:30 AM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
11:00 AM Rochester School Committee
1:00 PM ORR School Committee
3:30 PM ORR Joint School Committee
5:30 PM Rochester Select Board
6:00 PM Rochester Conservation Commission
7:00 PM Rochester Planning Board
8:00 PM Rochester Zoning Board of Appeals
9:30 PM Rochester School Committee
11:30 PM ORR School Committee

EDUCATION CHANNEL
Comcast Channel 8
Verizon Channel 37
Daily Schedule
7:00 AM Bulldog Weekly
7:30 AM ORR School Committee
9:30 AM Sippican Spring Concert
9:30 AM RMS 6th Grade Promotional Ceremony
10:30 AM Old Hammondtown School - Autism Acceptance
11:00 PM Chuck McIntyre - Autistic Presentation at ORR
12:00 PM Bulldog Weekly
12:30 PM ORR Volleyball vs Cardinal Spellman
1:30 PM ORR Field Hockey vs Dighton Rehoboth
2:30 PM ORR Boys Soccer vs Seekonk
3:30 PM ORR Baseball vs Apponequet
5:00 PM Old Colony 8th Grade Exploratory Day
5:30 PM ORR Promenade
6:00 PM Bulldog Weekly
6:30 PM ORR Football vs Apponequet
8:00 PM ORR Theater Class Barbie and Ken's Shakespearean Adventure
9:30 PM ORR Girls Softball vs Wareham
11:30 PM ORR Girls Lacrosse vs Plymouth North

MATTAPOISETT GOVERNMENT
Comcast Channel 26
Verizon Channel 38

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE
by Stephan Pastis



"We are honored to have such a strong and fully inclusive school as yours recognized for the hard work and dedication you demonstrate daily to continuously grow and strengthen your program," Doherty said. "Your school and leadership team are a model for other schools, and we look forward to new heights you will reach tomorrow and in years to come."

The Unified Champion Schools program provides a model for schools from Pre-K through the university level. More than 369 schools participated in Unified Champion programming in Massachusetts as of fall 2024.

The Unified Champion Schools model is also supported by the Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education. The model has been proven through research to be an effective way to provide students with and without disabilities the opportunity to form positive social relationships and to promote a socially inclusive school climate.

Schoolnton, a special education teacher, who is head coach of the Unified Basketball, Unified Track and Unified Strength and Conditioning teams at Old Rochester Regional High School, thanked all the students, staff, teachers and community members who helped achieve the National Banner recognition. Fenton also credited Athletic Director Chris Carrig, the school's Special Olympics liaison, for all that he does to support the program.

"Achieving National Banner School recognition from Special Olympics has been a goal of ours, and we are thrilled to see it become a reality," said Fenton, who is also co-advisor of the Unified Bulldogs Club, a student club that supports the school's Unified Sports programs. "This honor reflects the dedication of our Unified athletes, families, staff, administration, and the entire student body. From Unified Bulldogs Club to our Unified Plant Sale, Unified Peer Partners course, Unified PE, and Unified Sports, there is truly something for everyone at ORR. We are grateful to be able to offer these opportunities, and proud that Special Olympics and Unified programming have made ORR a stronger, more inclusive community. It's been amazing to watch students connect, support each other, and build real friendships through these programs. The joy and sense of belonging it brings to our school is something really special."

Superintendent Nelson and Principal Devoll each thanked Special Olympics and congratulated all of the volunteers and participants in Unified Sports at Old Rochester Regional High School.

"Earning this National Banner recognition is one of the most important achievements ever for Old Rochester Regional High School," said Principal Devoll. "Meeting the criteria for this award shows that our Unified Champion Schools program is helping to equip our young people with the knowledge and skills needed to help create inclusive opportunities in the areas of sports, education and community. Doing so engages our young people to improve the world around them,

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Movie Review

What's the Story?

By Rob Gonsalves
www.robsmovievault.com

***Megadoc.* A documentary directed by Mike Figgis, featuring Francis Ford Coppola. Running time: 107 minutes. No MPAA rating, but some rough language. Now playing in select theaters.**

Thirty-four years ago, *Hearts of Darkness,* a documentary about the turbulent making of Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now,* immediately established itself as the best film about the making of a film ever made — and, perhaps, that ever would be made. *Megadoc,* the new film by Mike Figgis (director of *Leaving Las Vegas*) about the making of Coppola's 2024 boondoggle *Megalopolis,* isn't nearly as good. Partly it's because there simply isn't a great story here, as there was in *Hearts of Darkness.* Then again, there wasn't a great story in *Megalopolis* either. The earlier documentary was about the anguish and logistical bloodbaths that went into an eventual triumph. The new one is about Coppola faffing about with actors on chintzy-looking sets, and it gets much more into the director's process with the cast. Actors, and especially actors who dream of working with Coppola, may get more out of *Megadoc* than the rest of us could.

Some of the actors are fun to watch here as they negotiate their way around an emotionally chaotic set where Coppola, still, in his eighties, admits he doesn't know what he's doing. To the extent that actors are agreeable to this let's-try-something-wild atmosphere, they seem to thrive under Coppola's direction while often looking ready to strangle him. (We get the impression Coppola enjoys getting both reactions.) As in *Megalopolis* itself, Aubrey Plaza and Shia LaBeouf magnetize the camera here, maybe simply because they gave Figgis the most access (unlike Adam Driver, who asked not to be filmed while acting but sits for an insightful interview with Figgis — Driver's a smart guy). Plaza in particular seems to be on Coppola's wavelength and clearly relishes the arch performance she gives, and she's entertaining when playing one of Coppola's many actors' games with legends like Jon Voight and Dustin Hoffman without showing a hint of intimidation.

If you've actually sat through *Megalopolis,* though, you might watch all of the effort and creativity that went into the film — all those seamstresses, production designers, etc. — and sigh in weariness because it all came to so little. (At least when we witnessed the drama behind the scenes of *Apocalypse Now,* we knew there was a stone-cold masterpiece on the other side.) Coppola famously worked on the script on and off since 1983, and we glimpse actors like Robert De Niro and Uma Thurman at a 2001 table read. What *Megadoc* won't tell you is what Coppola ever saw in this material aside from its being an obvious parable about a misunderstood artistic genius (Driver's character) wedded to some fusty preaching about what society needs (love and babies, apparently). *Megalopolis* stands with Martin Scorsese's *Gangs of New York* and Terry Gilliam's *The Man Who Killed Don Quixote* as a project that a visionary director had wanted to make for years, but by the time the movies finally came out, we were left with little feeling for why their directors had hungered to realize them. The passion seemed to have leaked out, replaced by flop sweat. Okay, Francis, Martin, Terry, you can make your big movie. *Now* what?

Figgis, who himself has a reputation for being jazzy and experimental and encouraging his actors to go and do likewise, privileges those rehearsals and those bits in which Coppola and the actors (largely LaBeouf) feel their way through a scene, sometimes at swords' point. Coppola will tell an actor to play a scene like a spider if that might lead to something interesting. Sometimes the stars align and it *does* lead to something great. And sometimes it leads to stiff, self-indulgent gibberish, and that's what happens a lot in *Megalopolis.* All the actors' games and arguments amount to very little, because they're playing types, not people, and they're doing and saying things that no humans on this planet have done or said. *Megalopolis* has no *people,* therefore no story.

We don't hear in *Megadoc* about the very mixed response to the film, nor about the allegations that Coppola got a bit handsy with some of the young female extras. Figgis' film comes across as an extra on the *Megalopolis* Blu-ray that we may never get (Coppola seems to want to four-wall it everywhere). Of course, Figgis didn't know at the time that the film he was covering would baffle most viewers (while others responded gratefully to Coppola's shoot-the-works spirit). Figgis seems to have been caught in the same trap as the actors — they all wanted to hang out with the man who made the *Godfather* films. They didn't realize that man hasn't been on a movie set in nearly fifty years. *That* man made *Apocalypse Now.* The man they hung out with made *Megalopolis.*

reducing bullying and promoting healthy interactions, while counteracting stereotypes, stigmas and hurtful language."

"This is an immense honor for Old Rochester Regional High School to receive this distinction from Special Olympics," said Superintendent Nelson. "Inclusivity is a core value for Old Rochester Regional School District and MA Superintendency Union #55. We are proud that our high school is achieving and surpassing high standards for the inclusion of students with and without intellectual disabilities, bringing us together through sports and other community activities. Congratulations to all of our teachers, staff and students who helped achieve this together."

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Letters to the Editor

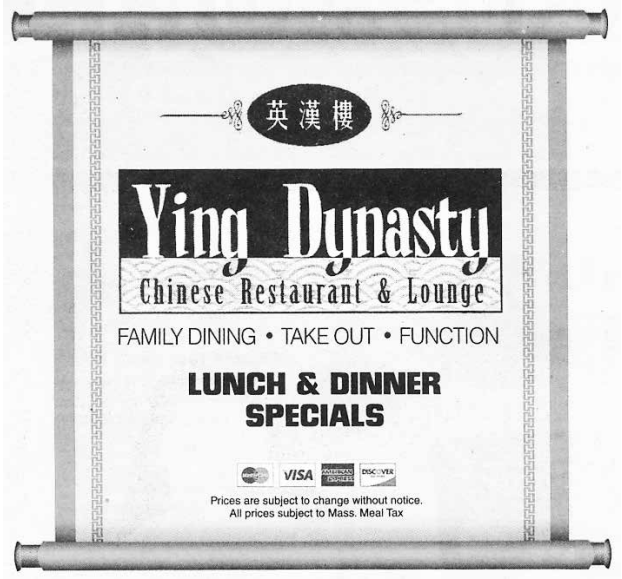
The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are not necessarily those of The Wanderer, its staff or advertisers. The Wanderer will gladly accept any and all correspondence relating to timely and pertinent issues in the great Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester area, provided they include the author's name, address and phone number for verification. We cannot publish anonymous, unsigned or unconfirmed submissions. The Wanderer reserves the right to edit, condense and otherwise alter submissions for purposes of clarity and/or spacing considerations. The Wanderer may choose to not run letters that thank businesses, and The Wanderer has the right to edit letters to omit business names. The Wanderer also reserves the right to deny publication of any submitted correspondence. All letters must be typed and submitted directly to: news@wanderer.com.

To the Editor:

Peace Corps at 64. September 22nd marks a major milestone in the history of the Peace Corps. On this day in 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed into law the original Peace Corps Act, which formally authorized this unique and independent agency that has become perhaps the most recognizable example of U.S. goodwill to millions of people around the world.

Now, 64 years later, nearly 250,000 American citizens have proudly served our country in more than 140 nations. This includes numerous tri-town and South Coast residents.

The Peace Corps has a long history of strong bipartisan support. And, while our current political and social dynamics present unprecedented challenges, that support continues today. In its budget request to



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Soups are Back!

Congress, the Trump administration has requested level funding of $430 million for the Peace Corps in the upcoming fiscal year. Meanwhile, lawmakers in the House and Senate, Republicans and Democrats, are coming together to introduce legislation to recognize the good works of Peace Corps volunteers with its highest civilian honor - a Congressional Gold Medal.

At a time when our country and world yearns for more peace and understanding, more civility, and more cooperative engagement, all fellow citizens are urged to support efforts to recognize the selfless, inspiring work of our past and present and future Peace Corps Volunteers, and to provide the Peace Corps with the resources it needs to continue and thrive in the years to come.

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Sincerely,
John P. Mello, Rochester

To the Editor,

Who Wasted Our Money?

Critics say the Special Town Meeting on October 4 is a "waste of money." Let's be clear: if it is a waste, it's because of the supporters of the expansion of the select board from 3 to 5 members. They created this situation when they rushed their Home Rule petition through the Legislature on the very day our citizen petition was certified.

Had they respected the process, this meeting would be binding — exactly as the law intended.

Instead, their maneuver stripped away the force of our vote, while leaving taxpayers to foot the bill for the meeting.

So, let's turn their argument on its head: the only way this meeting is wasted is if you don't show up. A strong turnout and a resounding YES vote will prove that citizens, not political insiders, set the direction of Mattapoisett.

Saturday, October 4th, 1 pm, ORR High School Gymnasium - be there. Show them that democracy is never a waste.

Sincerely,
Dennis P. McLaughlin

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OBITUARIES

Peter Franceschina did not so much live by his own rules as relish breaking the rules of others.

His problem with authority was colossal. His appetite for mischief, insatiable. The qualities combined might easily have landed him in trouble had he not found a useful outlet for them -- as a journalist in Florida, where he became one of the most dogged and creative investigative reporters of his generation.

Across thousands of stories filed from the late 1980s to the early 2010s, Peter, who died of liver failure last week at 60, was a relentless challenger of conventional wisdom, a devoted tormenter of crooked officials and a vivid chronicler of the serial killings, hurricanes, scandals, Ponzi schemes and abuses of power that shaped life in Florida at the turn of the 21st century.

He was also, more quietly, a generous mentor to younger reporters, a loving son and brother and a loyal and caring friend.

On or off the job, he was stubborn, profane, contrarian and fiercely principled, with zero patience for the dishonest, the petty, the puffed-up or the unkind.

Screaming around turns in his red Alfa Romeo Spider, top down, hair flying, cigarette dangling from his mouth, he could cut a dashing if sometimes lopsided figure, the result of a hip gone bad after too many days spent windsurfing on the choppy waters of southwest Florida.

It gave him the rolling gait of a pirate as he moved through the newsroom or down the halls of the county courthouse, armed with a notepad and a red Bic Flair, always in pursuit of his next big story. It rarely took him long to find it.

Once, he elicited a murder confession while drinking beer in a buddy's kitchen, cradling the phone in one hand and a bottle of Heineken in the other.

On another occasion, he was subpoenaed by prosecutors who were furious over his refusal to disclose the whereabouts of an itinerant victim of police corruption.

Not long after that, they subpoenaed him again over a different story, about the illegal phone tapping of public officials, and he chose to risk jail time rather than give up the name of a confidential source.

A judge ruled in his favor both times.

Peter John Franceschina was born in Washington, D.C., on Nov. 3, 1964, the son of Louis Franceschina, a manager for Giant Foods, and his wife Helen, a public health nurse.

He attended Centennial High School in Columbia, Md., where he was a standout on the lacrosse team, and studied engineering and English literature at the University of Pittsburgh.

He began his newspaper career at the lowest rung, as a clerk in a remote bureau of the Fort Myers News-Press, in 1987.

His first story was about politicians smoking pot. Within three years, he was the paper's star courthouse reporter and on his way to becoming one of its most formidable diggers.

He avoided press conferences, making no effort to ingratiate himself with the elected leaders, developers and moneymen in power. Instead, he wrote about a former dean of the state legislature who let drug smugglers land planes on his ranch in Glades County; documented the plight of migrant workers in the tomato fields of Immokalee; and penned a series on the wanderings of a serial killer who reached out from jail.

His trademark was the tight, unadorned sentence, and even his workaday cops items had the power to stop the reader short.

"Crawl inside the mind of Robert Cline Clay," began one story about a murder suspect in April 1992. "His passions are aroused by an obsession with young boys, images of violence, torn emotions. He writes breathlessly of handcuffs and love. His desires, he reminds himself, are powerful enough to kill for."

When not on deadline or windsurfing, he was usually in the garage. A believer in buying cars he couldn't afford - at least two Alfa Romeos, a handful of BMWs, including one M3 in striking Estoril Blue - he made up the difference by doing the repairs himself, no matter how complex or intensive.

His fluency in wrenches, bolts and gaskets and his utter lack of pretension belied an intellect of frightening power. He might have been the only person his friends knew who could change a clutch slave cylinder in the afternoon and then, over stiff drinks, riff on Bukowski, Pynchon and Gaddis late into the night.

He was also a skilled cook, and his seafood gumbo, pan-seared snapper and expertly sauced scallopini were often better than any restaurant's around.

In the early 2000s, he was recruited to the South Florida Sun-Sentinel, one of the largest newspapers in the state, where he covered courts in Palm Beach County.

When The Boston Globe broke the Catholic Church abuse scandal soon after, he was among the first reporters to document its reach into Florida, and into the Archdiocese of Miami in particular.

But it was after he was promoted to the paper's investigations team that he made his biggest mark.

A master of finding and parsing stacks of arcane records, he worked with other reporters to expose inequities within the cloistered world of the Seminole Tribe of Florida and abuses stemming from the state's lax regulation of daycares and nursing homes.

Still, he kept a hand in breaking news, dominating coverage of the $1.2 billion Ponzi scheme perpetrated by a

former Florida lawyer, Scott Rothstein.

Then one day in 2012, as the local news industry was imploding, he became fed up with the endless cuts and the constant more-with-lessisms. He used his company's generous health plan to get his busted hip fixed and then politely gave it the finger, moving back to Mattapoisett, Mass., where he is survived today by his father, Lou, and brother, Paul.

He cashed out his 401k and, after months spent scouring business filings and other records, decided to dump a big chunk of it into shares of a company he thought might do well for itself - Nvidia.

Before long he had taken up the lifestyle of one of his favorite literary characters, the antihero Travis McGee from the novels of John D. MacDonald. Mornings he would don his threadbare T-shirts, old cargo shorts and beat-up loafers, light a Marlboro and spend time wandering the local beaches.

He painted yachts and historical buildings. Pulled blue crabs from the marshes and ate them. Flirted with the waitresses at Turk's Seafood around the corner.

And, without heed to town regulations, he went to war with several stands of white poplar, an invasive species that had cropped up in his backyard to block his views of Buzzards Bay, felling one after another with a whisper-quiet electric chainsaw.

Seeing the trees come down, one especially testy neighbor turned him in to the conservation commission, leading to a protracted battle and the specter of hefty fines.

Outraged at the injustice of it all, at the idea of an environmental board punishing the removal of a harmful invader, Peter marshaled his resources. He put in hundreds of hours of botanical research and tracked down an expert witness, an arborist, to testify on his behalf.

In the end, as always, he prevailed.

A private service will be held in the future. For online guestbook please visit www.saundersdwyer.com

Dale S. Barrows, 67, of Rochester died September 11, 2025 peacefully at Tobey Hospital.

He was the husband of Marjorie L. (Wilborn) Barrows with whom he shared 40 years of marriage.

Born in New Bedford, son of Betty A. (Linhares) Barrows of Mattapoisett and the late Bradley L. Barrows, he was raised in Mattapoisett and lived in Rochester the last 40 years.

Dale was formerly employed as a police officer with the Rochester Police Department. He then was the Board of Health Agent in Mattapoisett for 32 years until his retirement. He also served on the Board of Health in Rochester for 27 years.

He enjoyed collecting dye cast models of heavy equipment.

Survivors include his wife Margie; a daughter, Nichole Barrows and her husband Corbin Martin of Freetown; a son, Bradley Barrows and his girlfriend Taylor Connor of Fairhaven; a brother, Barry Barrows of Rochester; a sister, Karen Barrows of Mattapoisett; and a grandson, Cody Barrows.

His Celebration of Life will be held on Friday, October 17, 2025 from 4-8 pm in the Freetown VFW 89 Middleboro Road, East Freetown, MA 02717 For online guestbook, please visit www.saundersdwyer.com

Joseph M. Sylvia, 91, of Mattapoisett passed away on Saturday, September 6, 2025 at Our Lady's Haven Fairhaven, MA. He was the loving husband of the late Nancy D. Sylvia for 65 years and the father of the late Sharon N. Rezendes of Marion, MA.

Born in Acushnet MA, son of Domingo F, Sylvia and Margret T. (Maloney) of Fairhaven. Lived in Mattapoisett for over 50 years. Joe worked at Otis Air Force Base in Bourne, MA for 30 years as a Crash Fire Fighter then became Captain. He served in the US Navy for 2 years as an ABAN during the Korean War. Joe enjoyed deer hunting in Maine with his son and friends.

Survivors include his daughter, Karen M. Sylvia of Fairhaven and son, Wayne F. Sylvia and his wife Anne of Fairhaven, sister Faith Hungsinger of California and brother James Sylvia of Fairhaven, grandchildren Jarell Purello and Gabriel Sylvia, several nieces and nephews.

Private services were held at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne, MA and were under the direction of Fairhaven Funeral Home, 117 Main St, Fairhaven, MA. For memorial register please visit, www.hathawayfunerals.com.

Robert K. Kirkland, 83, of Mattapoisett died Sunday, September 21, 2025 at Alpine Nursing Home in Coventry, RI, after a period of declining health. He was the husband of the late Barbara M. (Harriman) Kirkland, with whom he shared 34 wonderful and memorable years of marriage.

Born in Natick, MA, son of the late Alexander and Louise (Kelley) Kirkland, he lived in Roslindale and Needham before moving to Mattapoisett where he lived for most of his life.

He was a graduate of Needham High School, Class of 1960.

Bob was formerly employed by NYNEX Corpora-

Continued on page 33

Tri-town Police Logs

MARION
Log highlights Sept 14 – Sept 20
- Piney Point Rd – EMS/medical
- Main St – Parking enforcement
- Reservation Way – Animal control
- Field Stone Ln – Suspicious person
- Point Rd – Larceny/past
- Front St - Disturbance
- Delano Rd – General service
- Wareham Rd – Suspicious activity
- Spruce St – Follow up
- Pleasant St – Officer wanted
- Spring St – Abandoned property
- Wareham Rd – Health/welfare
- Lewis St – EMS/medical
- Mill St – Lost property
- Wareham Rd – MV collision
- Wareham Rd – Follow up
- Wareham Rd – Suspicious activity
- Village Dr – MV complaint
- Pleasant St – EMS/medical
- Cottage St – EMS/medical
- Point Rd – Paper service
- Abels Way – Animal complaint
- Mill St – General service
- Wareham Rd – EMS/medical
- Mill St - Fraud
- Upland Way – Suspicious MV
- Water St – EMS/medical
- Front St – Noise complaint
- Mill St – EMS/medical

MATTAPOISETT
Log highlights Sept 14 – Sept 20
- North St – MV crash
- County Rd – Property exchange
- Railroad Ave – Parking violation
- Park St – Animal control
- Railroad Ave – Parking violation
- Beech Wood R – General service
- Channel St – Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Pearl St – Health/welfare
- Wildwood Ter – Medical assist
- Pearl St – Follow up investigation
- Ocean Dr – Larceny/forgery/fraud
- Ocean Dr – 911 call
- Water St – Parking complaint
- Church St Ext – 911 call
- North St – Weapons discharge
- Fairhaven Rd – MV crash
- Hammond St – Follow up
- Tupola Ln – Medical assist
- Beach St – Animal control
- County Rd – MV crash
- Pine Island Rd – Medical assist
- Mattakiset Rd – Suspicious persons
- North St - Complaint
- Mendell Rd – MV lockout
- Brandt Island Rd – MV lockout
- Main St – Medical assist
- Holly Woods Rd – Ambulance request
- Railroad Ave – Parking violation
- Park St – Officer wanted

ROCHESTER
Log highlights Sept 14 – Sept 20
- Haskell Ridge Rd – Follow up
- New Bedford Rd – MV collision
- Hartley Rd – Animal control
- Stevens Rd – Well-being check
- Burgess Ave – 911 call
- Marys Pond Rd – MV stop/arrest
- Marion Rd – MV collision
- Pierce St - Disturbance
- Main St – MV collision
- Pierce St – General services
- Hiller Rd – Animal control
- Pierce St – General services
- Haskell Rdige Rd – Follow up
- Higginson Ln – Follow up
- Stevens Rd – Lost animal
- Rounseville Rd - Medical
- New Bedford Rd – Assist other
- Pierce St – General services
- Sarabeth Ln – Well-being check
- Dexter Ln – Road hazard
- Marys Pond Rd - MV collision
- New Bedford Rd – MV collision
- Pierce St – General services
- New Bedford Rd – General services
- Cushman Rd - Fraud
- Cranberry Hwy – Burglar Alarm
- Vaughn Hill Rd – Animal control
- Marys Pond Rd – Suspicious activity
- Alley Rd – Animal control

For a full PDF of the three towns' police logs from the past week, including arrest reports, visit www.Wanderer.com.

Regional Lunch Menus

COASTLINE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM
Monday, Sept 29: Mac & cheese, Cali blend vegetables, wheat bread, orange
Tuesday, Sept 30: Potato pollock, vegetable rice pilaf, kale & peppers, Hawaiian roll, oatmeal cookie, tartar sauce
Wednesday, Oct 1: Unstuffed pepper bowl w/beef, white rice, green beans & peppers, cornbread loaf, applesauce
Thursday, Oct 2: Chicken pot pie w/whole grain biscuit, broccoli, pudding, diet: fruit
Friday, Oct 3: Meatballs & marinara w/parmesan cheese, whole grain pasta, mixed vegetables, wheat roll, orange

CENTER SCHOOL
Monday, Sept 29: Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, carrots
Tuesday, Sept 30: Taco nacho platter, taco toppings bar, brown rice, black bean salad
Wednesday, Oct 1: Pancakes, Jones low salt sausage links, hashbrown patty, maple syrup
Thursday, Oct 2: Beef & potato bowl, whole grain dinner roll
Friday, Oct 3: Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD HAMMONDTOWN
Monday, Sept 29: Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, carrots
Tuesday, Sept 30: Taco nacho platter, taco toppings bar, brown rice, black bean salad
Wednesday, Oct 1: Pancakes, Jones low salt sausage links, hashbrown patty, maple syrup
Thursday, Oct 2: Beef & potato bowl, whole grain dinner roll
Friday, Oct 3: Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD ROCHESTER REGIONAL JUNIOR & SENIOR HIGH
Monday, Sept 29: Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, carrots
Tuesday, Sept 30: Taco nacho platter, taco toppings bar, brown rice, black bean salad
Wednesday, Oct 1: Pancakes, Jones low salt sausage links, hashbrown patty, maple syrup
Thursday, Oct 2: Beef & potato bowl, whole grain dinner roll
Friday, Oct 3: Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing
Friday, Oct 3:

ROCHESTER MEMORIAL
Monday, Sept 29: Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, carrots
Tuesday, Sept 30: Taco nacho platter, taco toppings bar, brown rice, black bean salad
Wednesday, Oct 1: Pancakes, Jones low salt sausage links, hashbrown patty, maple syrup
Thursday, Oct 2: Beef & potato bowl, whole grain dinner roll
Friday, Oct 3: Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

SIPPICAN SCHOOL
Monday, Sept 29: Crispy chicken sandwich, oven baked French fries, carrots
Tuesday, Sept 30: Taco nacho platter, taco toppings bar, brown rice, black bean salad
Wednesday, Oct 1: Pancakes, Jones low salt sausage links, hashbrown patty, maple syrup
Thursday, Oct 2: Beef & potato bowl, whole grain dinner roll
Friday, Oct 3: Pizza crunchers, marinara sauce, roasted chic peas, garden salad, assorted salad dressing

OLD COLONY REGIONAL
Monday, Sept 29: General TSO's chicken bowl & dinner roll
Tuesday, Sept 30: Mozzarella sticks, fries, marinara sauce & baked beans
Wednesday, Oct 1: Flavors of Fun Wednesday: check the menu board in the cafetaria for what we will be trying new
Thursday, Oct 2: Meatball sub, green beans & fries
Friday, Oct 3: Assorted pizza & Caesar salad

To the Editor,

Your Voice Still Matters - Show Up October 4, ORR Gymnasium

On Saturday, October 4, at 1:00 pm in the ORR High School Gymnasium, Mattapoisett voters will gather for a Special Town Meeting. Some want you to believe it's irrelevant because the legislature already acted . But remember; this meeting was forced by 324 certified signatures - more than triple the number who supported expansion at Annual Town Meeting.

The only reason this meeting is "non-binding" is because our opponents rushed their bill through Beacon Hill, cutting off our right to a fair and open decision. This is not democracy, this is maneuvering.

By attending and voting YES on the petition, you are reminding our Select Board and our legislators that the will of the people cannot be denied. Advisory or not, a strong vote on October 4 sends a resounding message: Mattapoisett, belongs to its citizens, not to a handful to a handful of insiders.

Please show up, stand up, and speak out. Our right to self-government is only as strong as our willingness to defend it.

Joseph P. Szaro, Mattapoisett

Marion Special Fall Town Meeting

The Marion Special Fall Town Meeting will be now be held on Monday, **November 24**, at 6:45 pm in the

OBITUARIES

tion for 31 years until his retirement. In retirement, Bob was employed at the Town of Mattapoisett Transfer Station for 11 years.

An active member of the Wareham Lodge of Elks for 55 years, Bob helped with dinners and events at the club. In 1994, he was honored as Elk of the Year.

A well-liked and respected member of the community, Bob enjoyed visiting local bars and restaurants with his wife, Barbara. His warm presence and easy smile will be deeply missed.

He is survived by his sister, Jeanne Kirkland; his brother, Jon Kirkland; his niece, Jessica Lindeman; and his nephew, Donald Kirkland.

He was predeceased by his wife, Barbara; his sister, Elizabeth Segeberg; and his brother, Donald Kirkland.

His Funeral Service will be held on Monday, September 29, 2025 at 11 AM at the Saunders-Dwyer Mattapoisett Home for Funerals, 50 County Rd. (Rt.6), Mattapoisett. Visitation will be Monday from 10-11 AM, prior to the service. Burial will follow in Cushing Cemetery. For directions and guestbook please visit www.saundersdwyer.com.

If you have a notice you would like to have included in the Obituaries section, please contact our office at: 508 758-9055, or by email at office@wanderer.com.

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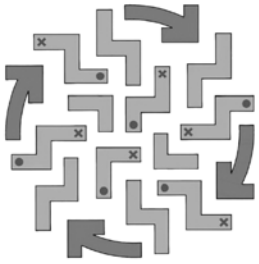

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Super Crossword

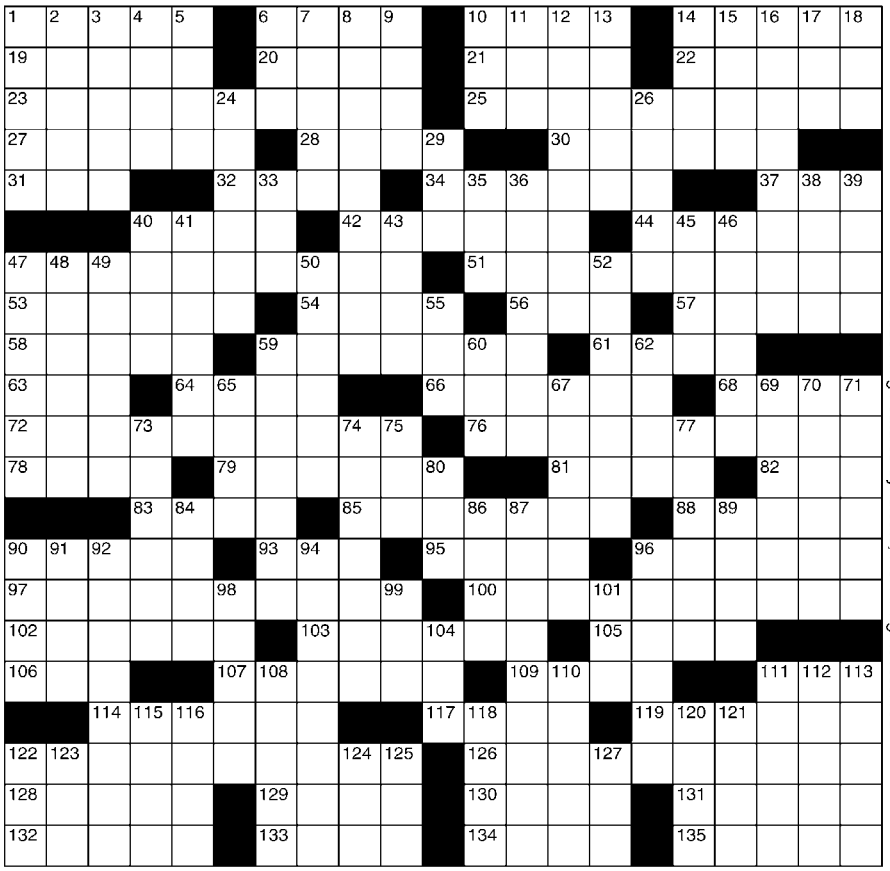
APPROPRIATE TIME

ACROSS

1 Europe's "City of Light"
6 Part of NEA: Abbr.
10 Kailua Bay's island
14 Evil being
19 — acids
20 Greet the day
21 Muscat's country
22 Maine university city
23 Bisquick or Betty Crocker product
25 Be deemed acceptable
27 Capital of Turkey
28 — -Free (contact lens solution brand)
30 Floor of a fireplace
31 — Cruces
32 Iranian money unit
34 "Tortilla Flat" co-star Hedy
37 Apiary buzzer
40 Mardi —
42 Singer Duane or Gregg
44 Steel-gray element
47 Jazz guitarist with 20 Grammys
51 Dessert named for soprano Nellie
53 Big online brokerage
54 Took off
56 — Na Na
57 Brilliance of success
58 Makes diluted
59 Social-climbing whiz kid
61 Letterman's rival, once
63 Recognize
64 Actress Kosarin or skater Ivanova
66 Yule songs
68 Clumsy sorts
72 1950s-'70s legal drama
76 Hitter in a horseback sport
78 Besides that
79 False name
81 "Hamilton" face-off
82 Grassland
83 "Sula" author Morrison
85 Athlete like Simone Biles
88 Miss Daisy player Jessica
90 Eyeliner flaw
93 "La Cage aux Folles" actor Tognazzi
95 Rooney or Kate of film
96 Warship with two banks of oars
97 What letter carriers carry
100 Grass cutter with an engine
102 Epoch of the first horses
103 Entraps
105 Meg of "I.Q."
106 Genetic helix
107 Little sister of Bart and Lisa
109 Poet Pound
111 Sit-up targets
114 Mexican inn
117 Divan, e.g.
119 Like smooth orange juice
122 "Yeah, that's about right"
126 Newspapers, magazines, and such
128 As a result of
129 Huge heads
130 Shredded
131 Newsy notes
132 Fable writer
133 Pond critter
134 Henchman helping Hook
135 Appropriate time to solve this puzzle?

DOWN

1 Like Vatican affairs
2 Kitchen range brand
3 Skating sites
4 Ancient Andean
5 Fly like a kite
6 Amazement
7 Pago Pago's place
8 Aircraft that can land on snow
9 Following
10 "Alley —"
11 Docs' gp.
12 Rosh —
13 Auto racer Al
14 Full of gloom
15 Formerly, archaically
16 Insect-repelling pellet
17 Dollar bill
18 And not
24 Dojo activity
26 Windy month
29 With 45-Down, bad sign
33 "Sort of" suffix
35 Piece of gig gear
36 Baton-waving director
38 Actor Idris
39 Coup d'—
40 Govt. agent
41 Morning warning for sailors
43 Rival of Uber
45 See 29-Down
46 "Don't lose your head"
47 Where pooches get pampered
48 Close behind, as a dog
49 Judges evaluating cases, e.g.
50 City on the Rio Grande
52 Shout
55 Tic- — -toe
59 Element with a 235 isotope
60 Knock sound
62 J.D. Salinger title girl
65 Somalian-born supermodel
67 Long-used maxim
69 Totally original
70 "I want some grub!"
71 Obedient dog, at times
73 Spin
74 In progress
75 Big Apple team, on scoreboards
77 Longtime Nissan model
80 "So yummy!"
84 Algerian port
86 Neck's scruff
87 Had as its source
89 Elvis — Presley
90 Went fast
91 Earth orbiter
92 Those who've broken free
94 Dashboard fuel indicator
96 Journalist Gumbel
98 Air Force officer Curtis
99 Chou En- —
101 Blunder
104 Home: Abbr.
108 Guys writing jingles, say
110 African nation renamed in 1997
111 Poet W.H. —
112 Airship type
113 Muscle twitch
115 Bus driver for Bart and Lisa
116 Go no further
118 Chooses
120 Fail to include
121 Buttigieg of Biden's Cabinet
122 BlackBerry, e.g., in brief
123 Really regret
124 Female seal
125 FDR follower
127 Born as



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SALOME'S STARS

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) While you prefer to meet troublesome situations head-on, you might want to stand back from this one until you know what (or who!) started it. Caution should be your watchword.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Once again, your common-sense approach to a problem helps you sort it out before it gets out of control. Expect to learn some startling facts as events continue to develop.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Positive influences dominate your sign, but you'll have to work hard to get the great rewards that are out there. Meanwhile, personal relationships thrive on tender, loving care.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) A friend seems to be drifting away. You might feel betrayed, but you need to know the facts before you pass judgment. Perhaps you made too many demands that couldn't be met.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) New people start to come into the Lion's life at this time. Some of them could influence important career changes. Keep an open mind and weigh all the possibilities.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) It's a good time for agreements, contracts, and other positive commitments, including one with Cupid. Also, expect good news about a health matter.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) A recent change of plans upsets your penchant for keeping things in order, but once you adjust to the new situation, you'll be able to make new plans.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) Aspects favor personal commitments. Family plans could include moving to a new home or even to a new city. Be open to any and all considerations.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) Both attached and single Archers can expect to see a positive reversal in certain relationships that had seemed to be on a collision course to nowhere.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Family and friends take priority over everything else. Exercise a little more flexibility in your well-planned life so that you can spend more time with your kith and kin.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) A pesky person who caused you some problems recently will soon move out of your life. Meanwhile, an ARIES is ready to help you get a fresh start romantically.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Yours is the sign of change and creation. This is a good time for you to experience changes that can open up new personal and professional opportunities.

BORN THIS WEEK: You love to have fun and enjoy competition. You also have a gift for "reading" people and assessing situations.

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Sippican School Multipurpose Room.

The Select Board will close the warrant at their **October 7** meeting which will be held at the Marion Police Department Conference Room, 550 Mill Street at 6:00 pm.

We will host an informational Town Meeting Review, date and time to be determined.

ORR Bulldog Pride Alumni Association

The ORR Bulldog Pride Alumni Association (BPAA) announces the 3rd Annual Alumni Weekend. Organized around the annual Homecoming game, the parallel events will be held on Friday, **October 17** and Saturday, **October 18**.

Homecoming and Alumni Weekend 2025 is an opportunity for past students and graduates of ORRJHS andORRHS to reconvene in proud support of our schools, and to establish an outlet for alumni and friends to volunteer and contribute resources in service to students, teachers, and staff. School pride is the nexus for our efforts and we know that graduates of ORR are immensely proud of their experience.

The program of events is open to all ORRJHS and ORRHS alumni and friends of ORR, an all-class experience that hopes to bring together the common alumni experience spanning over seven decades from the Class of '62 to the Class of '25.

Local businesses have contributed to help us in our fundraising efforts. Your support of the following businesses helps the BPAA to build the alumni network, support students and families of the ORR community and foster service to the school.

For Alumni Weekend 2025, the BPAA is committed to exceeding last year's fundraising goal of $4,000. For 2025-2026, the BPAA intends to award $5,000 in scholarships and also plans to launch a grant program for student groups, totalling over $7,000 in financial gifts from small and large donations, earned primarily through the fundraising efforts during Alumni Weekend. This will allow BPAA funds to reach the wider ORR community by supporting projects and experiences for all students.

Friday, October 17, "ORRHS Homecoming Football Game", kickoff 6:30 pm. Join us at the dedicated

TriTown Happenings

Oyster catcher on Strawberry Point. Photo by Faith Ball

Sunset from Town Beach in Mattapoisett. Photo by Rob Grant

Photo by Jennifer Shepley

The Marion Natural History Museum's afterschool group enjoyed using the seining nets to explore harbor wildlife. We found pin fish, striped killifish, loads of silversides, a small blue crab, and shrimp. The kids had a wonderful time collecting the animals in buckets and releasing them again after the program ended. We were also visited by three hungry seagulls anxious to get to our catch. Our next afterschool program is Monarch Migrations on October 1. All our upcoming programs are listed on the museum's website: www.marionmuseum.org. Photos courtesy Elizabeth Leidhold

These photos and more are available online at www.wanderer.com

alumni area behind the end zone. Connect with fellow alumni and the BPAA. We'll help you register your name and class in the alumni archive. Please note that to enter the grounds, all attendees are required to purchase a ticket. The BPAA is not involved in ticket sales for the game.

"Friday Night Lights" Social, Join us to celebrate the Bulldogs at The Stowaway in Mattapoisett, an alumni-owned business. The event starts immediately following the game. Complimentary light refreshments will be served. Special cocktails will be on the menu and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the BPAA. A 50/50 raffle will be held, including a silent auction. No entrance fee.

Saturday, October 18, "BPAA 3rd Annual Alumni Homecoming Celebration", 7:00 pm. Saturday's celebration is to be held at alumni-owned The Bitter End in Fairhaven, featuring live music by Dave Dunn. Complimentary refreshments will be served. A 50/50 raffle will be held, including a silent auction. No entrance fee.

The ORR BPAA is a recognized charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and operates as a section 501(c)(3) non-profit. Donations to the BPAA are tax-deductible.

If you are a local business and are interested in supporting our efforts, reach out to the BPAA at bulldogpridealumassoc@gmail.com. Please consider

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Picture by Fran Grenon, spectrumphotofg.com

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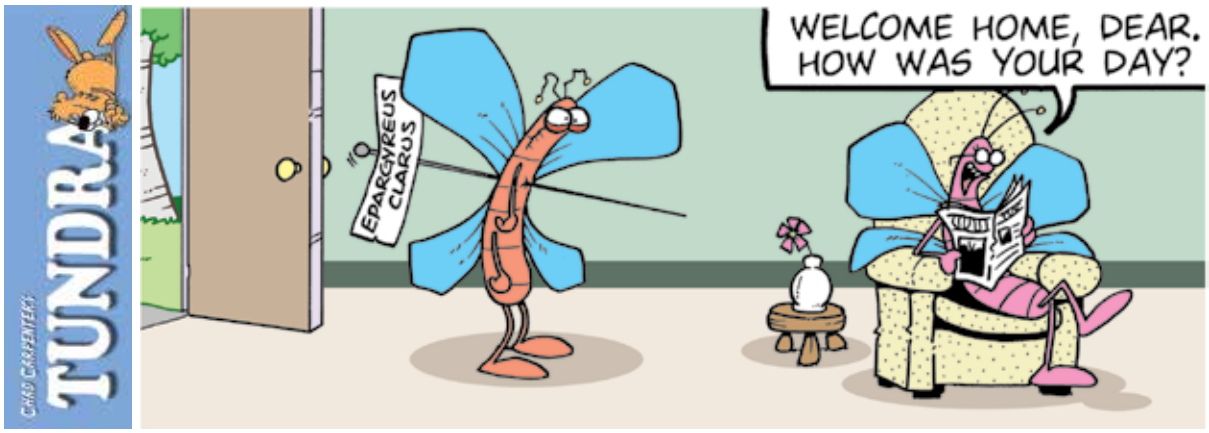
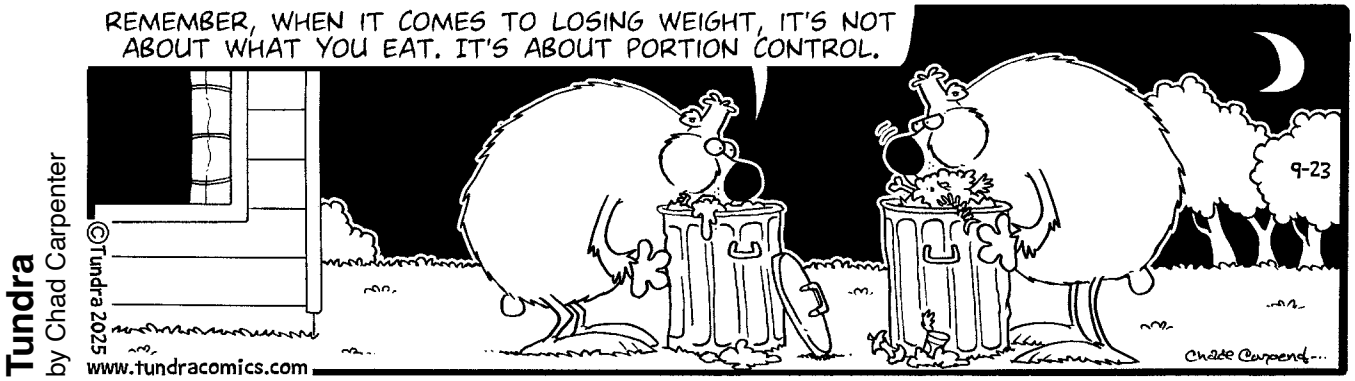
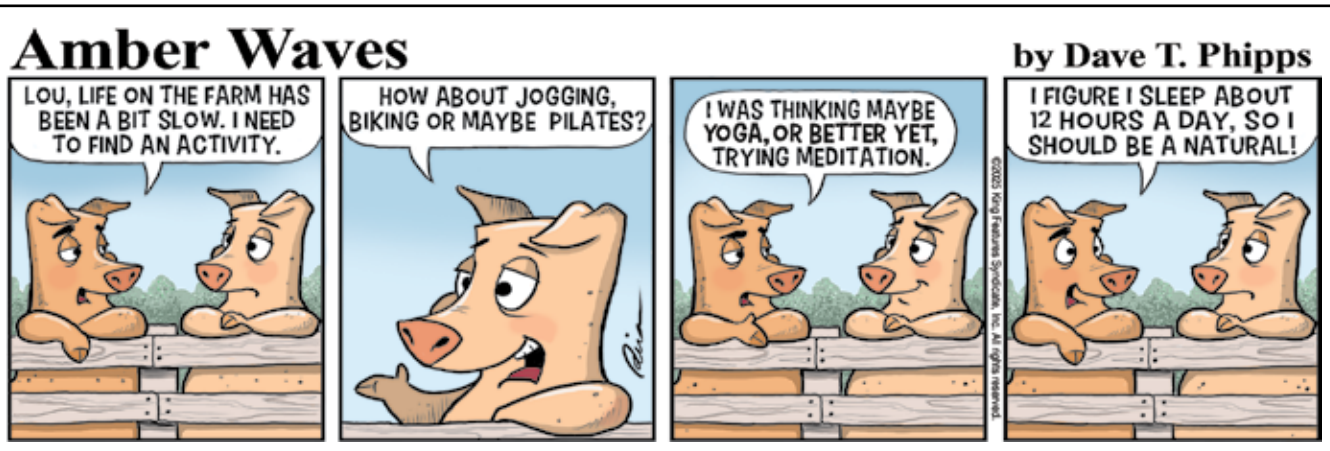
* Concrete, Asphalt, Aggregate
* Rocks, Fill, Loam


TUNDRA
CHAD CARPENTER
EPARGYREUS CLARUS
WELCOME HOME, DEAR. HOW WAS YOUR DAY?


REMEMBER, WHEN IT COMES TO LOSING WEIGHT, IT'S NOT ABOUT WHAT YOU EAT. IT'S ABOUT PORTION CONTROL.
9-23
Tundra
by Chad Carpenter
©Tundra 2025
www.tundracomics.com

off the mark
by Mark Parisi
SHE'S SO CUTE WHEN SHE TRIES ON HER SISTER'S CLOTHES
otmCartoon@gmail.com
©2025 MARK PARISI DIST BY ANDREWS MCMEEL 9-21
offthemark.com


Amber Waves
by Dave T. Phipps
LOU, LIFE ON THE FARM HAS BEEN A BIT SLOW. I NEED TO FIND AN ACTIVITY.
HOW ABOUT JOGGING, BIKING OR MAYBE PILATES?
I WAS THINKING MAYBE YOGA, OR BETTER YET, TRYING MEDITATION.
I FIGURE I SLEEP ABOUT 12 HOURS A DAY, SO I SHOULD BE A NATURAL!

making a donation in the name of an ORR grad. Go Bulldogs.

Marion Natural History Museum

Early Life History of Humpback Whales, Friday **October 10**, 6:30 to 7:30, Marion Natural History Museum, 8 Spring Street, Marion, $10.00 donation to the Museum is much appreciated. Humpback whale mothers give birth in the Caribbean and travel with their babies to New England waters to feed each summer. This talk will dive into the world of young calves and juveniles of Humpback whales. Associate Professor Kathryn Kavanaugh and doctoral student Eman Khwaja will share some recent research on humpback whale behavior. They study the reproductive and developmental biology of vertebrates including whales. They will share current studies of the humpback whale population - in particular related to maternal care and life history. Please register through the Museum's website: www.marionmuseum.org

Nature Journaling Workshop – An introduction - **October 11**, 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Meet at Washburn Park, Marion, A donation to the museum of $10.00 would keep the program going. Join us as we learn different techniques to journal our natural world. Tricia owns and operates The Art & Nature Studio and teaches Art and Science illustration workshops. She has taught Nature Sketching and Journaling workshops for a variety of organizations in addition to ours including: the Wildlands Trust, the Soule Homestead, Clark University, and Bridgewater State University. She has a degree in Biology and Science Illustration from Bridgewater State University as well as a Certificate in Natural Science Illustration from the Rhode Island School of Design. She is also a long-time member of the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators. We hope to offer a few workshops to help us develop confidence to keep us engaged with nature and learn sketching and journaling skills to convey our observations of nature. No experience with art necessary. Please register for the program at the museum's website: www.marionmuseum.org

New programs are being added frequently so keep an eye on our website.

Fall Migrants and Winter Arrivals at Old Aucoot

Join the Mattapoisett Land Trust and the Nasketucket Bird Club on Saturday **September 27** at 8:00 am for an early morning birding adventure. This birding walk will be led by Michael Labossiere from the Nasketucket Bird Club. It will be an easy relaxed morning in the woods and field and a wonderful opportunity to learn about local birdlife. Let's see who is setting up residence for the winter in the woods along Old Slough Road and in the meadow at Grace Pond.

The walk will take place at MLT's Old Aucoot District at Grace Pond. Meet at 8:00 am at the brand new MLT parking area at the end of Bowman Road near Grace

LEGAL NOTICES

TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT
MATTAPOISETT SELF STORAGE, Inc.
SELF STORAGE FACILITY AUCTION SALE

Mattapoisett Self Storage Operator's Sale for non payment of Storage Charges pursuant to the power of sale contained in M.G.L. Chapter 105A, Section 4. The following property will be sold at Public Auction at 11:30 am on Thursday, October 9, 2025, on the premises of Mattapoisett Self Storage, 7 Industrial Drive, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. All household furniture, trunks, books, clothes, appliances, tools, antiques, miscellany held for: Nadine Jones, Unit C095; Catherine Walsh, Unit C300; Bennu Anpial C110 & C151. Sale per order of Mattapoisett Self Storage. Tel: 508-758-4311. Terms: Cash. Units sold by the entirety. Sale is subject to postponement and/or cancellation. www.StorageAuctionSolutions.com Lic # 350
9/18, 9/25

TOWN OF MARION
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING CASE #828 - MODIFICATION

The Marion Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at 6:45 pm on Thursday, October 2, 2025 in the conference room of the Marion Police Station, 550 Mill Street, on the modified application of Heron Cove Estates, for a Variance from section 230-5.1 and 230-5.2 to allow single family dwelling units on 17 acres at a density not to exceed 3.4 dwelling units per acre in a Residence D zone.

The property, located on Wareham Street, is further identified on Assessors' Plan 7 as Lots 28, 28A and 28B.
Cynthia Callow, Chairperson 9/18, 9/25

TOWN OF MARION
BOARD OF HEALTH
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Marion Board of Health will conduct a public hearing on Thursday, October 2, 2025, at 4:40 pm in the meeting room of the Marion Police Department at 550 Mill Street on the variance request submitted by Zenith Consulting Engineers, LLC, pertaining to the property located at 24 Ichabod Lane, further identified as Map 22A, Lot 11.

The following variance is requested from Section 4: Subsurface Disposal of Sanitary Waste of the Marion Sanitary Code (MSC).

M.S.C. 4.80: Septic Tank Capacity: Request a variance from the requirement of a 2,000-gallon capacity septic tank for a dwelling of five bedrooms or larger to a 1,500-gallon capacity septic tank.
Albin R. Johnson III, Chair 9/18, 9/25

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION & TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing of the Rochester Conservation Commission will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room regarding a Notice of Intent filed by David Vermette, VCORP, LLC, 968-970 Kempton Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 for property located at 0 Robinson Road, designated as Lots 2 and 5 on Assessors Map 36. The proposed work includes the construction of a single-family home with associated grading within the 200' riparian zone to perennial stream. The applicant's representative is Nyles Zager, Zenith Consulting Engineers, LLC, 3 Main Street, Lakeville, MA 02347.

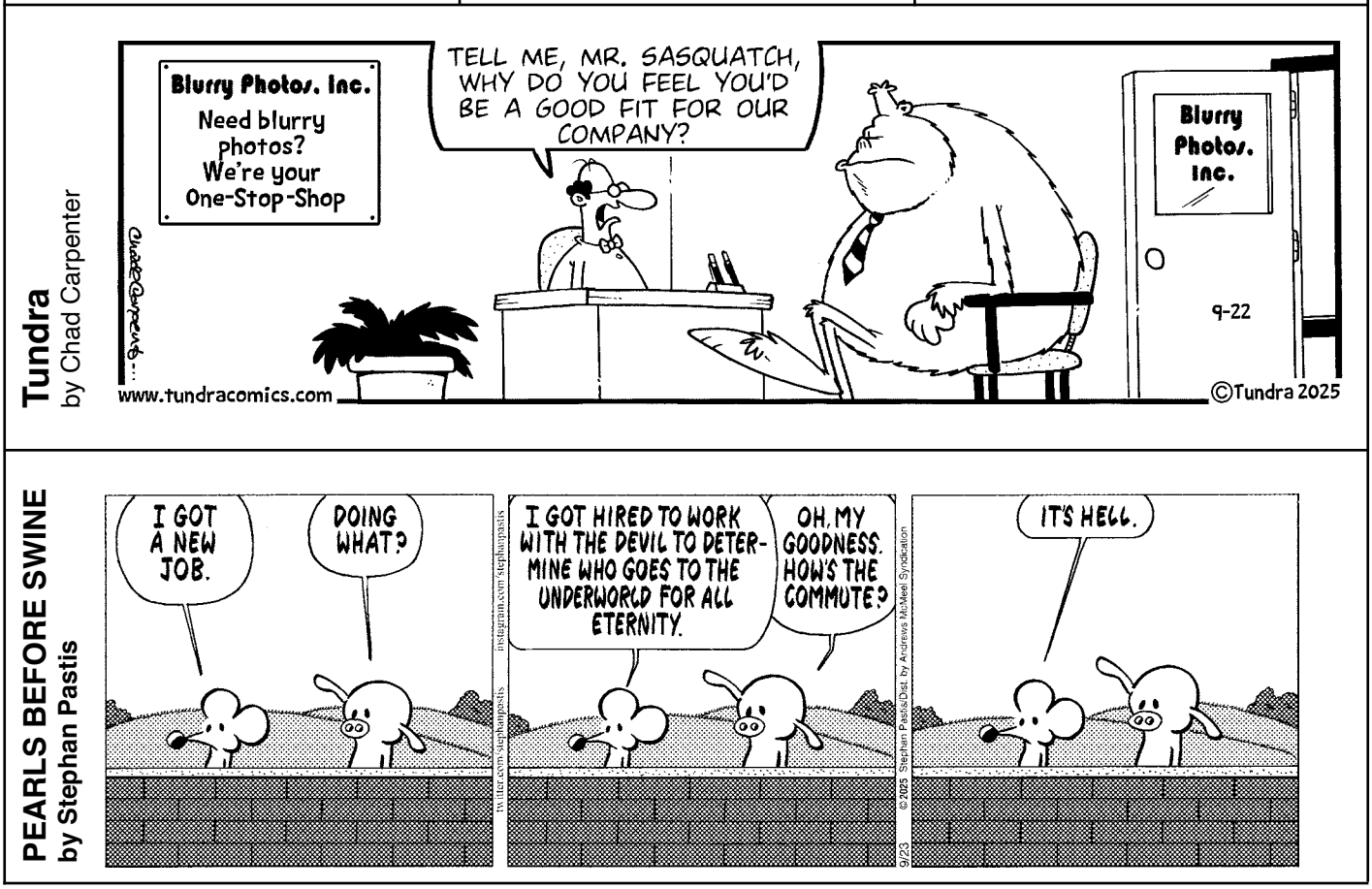
This hearing is being held under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, MGL Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Town of Rochester Wetlands Protection By-Law.
Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81149811267
Meeting ID: 811 4981 1267
Christopher Gerrior, Chairman 9/25

TOWN OF ROCHESTER
CONSERVATION COMMISSION & TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

A public meeting of the Rochester Conservation Commission will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall Conference Room regarding a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by Saunders Family Cranberry Co. for property located on 0 County Road in Rochester and is designated as Lot 43 on Assessors Map 19. The applicant is proposing the initial development of an agricultural water supply reservoir as a normal improvement of Land in Agricultural Use located within the 100-foot buffer zone to the Bordering Vegetated Wetlands.

The applicant's representative is Wil-

Continued on page 42



Pond. Bring your binoculars and dress appropriately for the outdoors, including sturdy footwear. This is a free event open to all. Hope to see you there. Email Sarah at manager@mattlandtrust.org with any questions.

Mattapoisett Yacht Club News

Mattapoisett Yacht Club racers finish 1-3 in Buzzards Bay Trophy Series.

The BBT series consists of eight races hosted by five Buzzards Bay yacht clubs throughout the summer. A total of 55 boats competed in at least one race. To qualify for the series trophy a racer must compete in at least four of those races. Points are then tallied for the boats' best four finishes.

In the Spinnaker division Glory, sailed by Beverly Yacht Clubs' Barry Steinberg placed first. Dragonfly, sailed by N. Thomas Williams placed second and MYCs' Jim Barnes in Hamburglar finished third.

In the Cruising division MYCs' Mark Thornhill in No Quarter Given placed first.

MYC will hold its Awards Dinner and Business Meeting at Salerno's in Onset on October 18. All information and reservations can be found on the MYC website. www.mattapoisettyc.org.

ORR Alumni Trail Race

The Old Rochester Regional (ORR) community is gearing up for the 2nd Annual ORR Alumni Trail Race, taking place on Monday, **October 13** at 9:00 am at scenic Washburn Park in Marion. Runners, walkers, and supporters of all levels are invited to participate in this exciting event, with all proceeds benefiting the Old Rochester cross country and track and field teams.

Following the success of last year's inaugural race, which raised over $500, the ORR Alumni Trail Race aims to continue its tradition of fostering community spirit and supporting student-athletes. The racecourse offers a picturesque trail run, perfect for alumni, current students, family members, and local running enthusiasts.

Registration and information available at: runsignup.com/Race/MA/Marion/ORRAlumniTrailRace

Proceeds from the race will directly support the ORR cross country and track and field programs, helping to provide equipment, uniforms, and other opportunities for student-athletes.

Whether you're a seasoned runner or looking to reconnect with the ORR community, the Alumni Trail Race is a great way to stay active and support a great cause.

Mattapoisett Special Town Meeting

The Town of Mattapoisett will be holding a Special Town Meeting on Saturday, **October 4** at 1:00 pm. This meeting will be held at Old Rochester Regional High School, 135 Marion Road. Voter check-in will begin at 12:00 pm. Please plan to arrive early to help avoid long lines. The warrant for the Special Town Meeting is posted on the town website. Copies are also available at Town Hall during normal business hours. Please call or email the Town Clerk's Office with any questions at 508-758-4100 x2.

Community Preservation Act Funding

The Mattapoisett Community Preservation Act Committee will be accepting project funding applications for Committee consideration and presentation at the Spring 2026 Annual Town Meeting. The Project Application and guidelines will be available on the Town Website and in paper form at the Select Board's Office on October 6. Submit Completed applications by November 7, 2025, to: Mattapoisett Community Preservation Act Committee, c/o Mattapoisett Select Board Office, PO Box 435, 16 Main Street, Mattapoisett, MA 02739.

Each project request must be submitted to the CPA Committee using the Project Application Form. Nine (9) copies of the application package must be provided to the Committee. For information and questions email cwmccullough@comcast.net.

Friends of the Mattapoisett Library Fall Book Sale

The Friends of the Mattapoisett Library invite book lovers of all ages to their upcoming Fall Book Sale on Saturday **October 25**, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm in the Library Community Room at 7 Barstow Street,

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www.OldTymeChimneySweep.com

LEGAL NOTICES

liam Madden, G.A.F. Engineering, Inc., 266 Main Street, Wareham, MA 02571.

This hearing is being held under the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, MGL Ch. 131, Section 40 and the Town of Rochester Wetlands Protection By-Law.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81149811267
Meeting ID: 811 4981 1267
Christopher Gerrior, Chairperson 9/25

TOWN OF MATTAPOISETT
CONSERVATION COMMISSION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Mattapoisett Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, October 27, 2025 at 6:30 pm in the Mattapoisett Town Hall on a Notice of Intent submitted by TASSIE TRUST.

The meeting will also be a hybrid meeting. Please contact the Conservation Commission for the Zoom information.

The Applicant proposes to reconstruct a single-family dwelling and perform associated site work.

The proposed work will be performed within Land Subject to Coastal Storm Flowage, Flood Zones VE (El. 15 & 17).

The property is known as 6 Nashawena Road and is further identified as Lot #125 on Assessors Map #15A. 9/25

---

off the mark by Mark Parisi

TRIVIA TEST
By Fifi Rodriguez

---

1. MOVIES: What was the name of Ron Burgundy's dog in "Anchorman"?
2. LITERATURE: The middle school student Greg Heffley is the protagonist of which book series?
3. SCIENCE: What is the Abyssal Zone in the ocean?
4. GEOGRAPHY: Where is the island of Aruba located?
5. TELEVISION: Which city is the setting for the series "Breaking Bad"?
6. PSYCHOLOGY: What is the fear of colors called?
7. ANATOMY: What connects muscles to bones?
8. U.S. STATES: Which state is home to the Badlands National Park?
9. U.S. PRESIDENTS: Who was the sixth president of the United States?
10. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: What is September's traditional birthstone?

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Answers
1. Baxter.
2. "Diary of a Wimpy Kid."
3. The deepest and darkest part of the ocean, at depths of 3,000 to 6,000 meters.
4. Southern Caribbean Sea.
5. Albuquerque, New Mexico.
6. Chromophobia.
7. Tendons.
8. South Dakota.
9. John Quincy Adams.
10. Sapphire.

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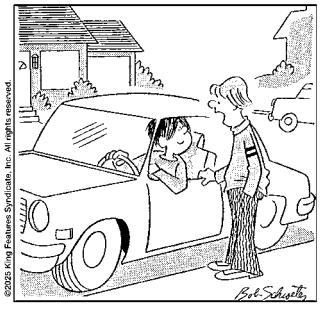

"You're lucky, the only wheels my father lets me use are on the _ _ _ _ _ _ ."

SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

Move
ATONIC ___ ___ ___ ___ [ ] ___

Design
NETVIN ___ ___ ___ [ ] ___ ___

Recluse
RITHEM ___ ___ ___ [ ] ___ ___

Refusal
RAVIEW [ ] ___ ___ ___ ___ [ ]

TODAY'S WORD
___ ___ ___ ___ ___

Weekly SUDOKU

		2	6		9		8	
			5			7	2	
4								
2			4	5				
		4	9	7		2	5	6
3	5			6	8			7
		5	1		6		7	2
							6	1
			7					9

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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Mattapoisett. This event is a great opportunity to find gently used books at affordable prices while supporting the library's valuable programs and activities.

In preparation for the sale, the Friends of the Mattapoisett Library will also be accepting book donations on Friday, October 24, from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm. Community members are encouraged to donate gently used books to help make the event a success.

All proceeds from the sale directly benefit the library, funding programs, events, and resources that enrich the Mattapoisett community.

For more information, please contact the Friends of the Mattapoisett Library at friendsofmattapoisettlibrary@gmail.com.

Bruzelius & Worthington to Show at the MAC

Artists Margaret Bruzelius & Nanci Worthington are featured in a new exhibition opening on **October 11** with a reception from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. The artists, more than peripherally related, are excellent craftspeople in their respective mediums. One is rooted in nature, and the other in a world of myth and fantasy.

Margaret Bruzelius has worked in the fashion business as a designer for hand knits for magazines such as Vogue Knitting and McCall's Craft and Needlework. After deciding to completely change her direction, she earned a PhD in Comparative Literature at Yale. She then worked as a Lecturer and a Dean, teaching in the Literature Programs at both Harvard and Smith College. Now that she is retired she spends her time rug hooking, gardening and travelling. She works in textile - specifically in woven rugs.

Nanci Worthington has an MFA-IA in art and ecology from Goddard College, and has kept nature journals in New Marlborough, MA for almost 50 years. Drawn mostly to botanical subjects, Nanci became interested in what a

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TOWN OF MARION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
The Marion Select Board is seeking volunteers to serve on the following Town Boards and Committees:
* Scholarship Education Fund Committee (2)
* Trees & Park Committee (1)
* Zoning Board of Appeals (1 alternate)
Applications to serve are available at the Select Board office and on the Town of Marion website. Please submit a letter of interest or completed application either online or return a hard copy of application to the Marion Select Board, Marion Town House - Annex, 14 Barnabas Road, Massachusetts 02738 by end of business October 31, 2025

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Tutoring Retired special education teacher available to tutor grades 5-12 in all subjects. Flexible rates. Contact 508-273-6592 or sampsonbiz@hotmail.com.

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CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

Classified Policy: All Classified Advertisements must be prepaid and can be placed at our office or on line at www.wanderer.com.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday at 10:00 am for Thursday's paper.

Classified Rates:
Classified Advertisements are $8.00 for 3 lines or less per week. Each additional line is $1.00 per week. There are an average of six words per line. Bold is an addition $1 per week.

Classified Guidelines:
*As a general rule, there are approximately six words per line in a standard Classified Ad.
*Blank lines cannot be used in Classified Advertisements.
*There is only upper case and lower case lettering.
*No graphics may be used in Classified Advertisements.
*Classified Ads cannot be placed on hold.
*Classified Ads cannot be taken over the phone.

Mailing Classified Ads: Ads can be mailed with payment to P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739

Placing Classified Ads On-line: Ads can be placed on line at: www.wanderer.com

Dropping Off Classified Advertisements: Ads can be dropped by our office at 55 County Road in Mattapoisett, Monday, Thurs, Fri -9am to 3pm; Tuesday 9am to noon

Payment Policy: All sales final, we do not offer credits or refunds.

Legal Advertisements:
* Legal Ads are $1.00 per line, at a minimum of $25. per ad.

plant's role was in its host ecology. Who eats it? Was it used by indigenous and colonists as a healing remedy? Is it a solo host plant for some insect or critter? Recently she has added mycorrhizal networking to the curiosity list. Straddling nature, science and art, she uses pen, pencil, paint, paper and measuring tools (even if it's a stick). Ecological agency is critical in this time of climate change and for Nanci, working as a natural scientific illustrator, art has become a quiet form of activism.

The MAC will be hosting Artist Presentations on Saturday, November 1, at 11:00 am with both artists.

The exhibition is open through November 14. The MAC Galleries are located at 80 Pleasant St., Marion, MA. Thurs-Sat 10:00 am to 2:00 pm daily. For more information visit www.marionartcenter.org/on-exhibit.

Marion Historical Commission

The Marion Historical Commission is pleased to share the announcement of Preservation Massachusetts' 2026 round of the Massachusetts Historic Preservation Matching Grant Program. Funding for this program is provided by the 1772 Foundation, which has made $125,000 available for preservation projects in the Commonwealth for 2026.

The 1772 Foundation, in cooperation with Preservation Massachusetts, is making available 1:1 matching grants of up to $10,000 for exterior preservation projects, such as painting, finishes and surface restoration;

Halloween Cover Contest!

Your best Halloween artwork could be on the cover of The Wanderer and you could win $100!

Submit your best original Halloween drawing, photo, compilation, or anything else we can print on our cover to enter.

Deadline for submitting artwork is Monday, October 20 at noon.

Online voting will take place from October 21 to October 27

The winner will be on the cover of the October 30 edition of The Wanderer.

The Fine Print:
All entries must include a signed copy of the Official Entry Form, that can be picked up at The Wanderer office, 55 County Road, Mattapoisett, or downloaded at www.wanderer.com (Click on "Cover Contest").
A full list of rules and regulations can be found at www.wanderer.com

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Don't forget to wish these people a Happy Birthday!

Bob Spooner	September 25
Gale Moura	September 25
Jillsley Dakin	September 25
Danny Rosa	September 26
Austyn Healy	September 26
Cameron Arruda	September 26
Eddie Doherty	September 26
Eric Sylvester	September 26
Greta Anderly	September 26
Ned Marble Maloney	September 26
Ronnie Morrell	September 26
Scott Henriques	September 26
Gomer Taylor	September 27
Grayson Silva	September 27
Jarred Boucher	September 27
Kathy Saunders	September 27
Robyn Holmes	September 27
Stephanie Kimball	September 27
Jenna Lynch	September 28
Mikayla Mooney	September 28
Patrick Janicki	September 28
Paul Hebert	September 28
Zechariah Mooney	September 28
Margaret Senna	September 29
Meghan Seguin	September 29
Melanie Browne-Klein	September 29
Tammy Ferreira	September 29
Gale Hudson	September 30
Jennifer Deslauriers	September 30
Jennifer Paquette	September 30
Timothy Harkins	September 30
Elizabeth Bastarache	October 1
Joel Anthony Moreno	October 1
Louise Doucette	October 1
Shane M. Lake	October 1

If you would like *The Wanderer* to announce a birthday for yourself, a friend or family member, please submit your information online to us at www.wanderer.com. To submit information by regular mail, please send the person's name (month and day) along with your name and phone number so we can confirm the information to Birthdays, c/o The Wanderer, P.O. Box 102, Mattapoisett, MA 02739. You may submit birthday announcements anytime during the year and they will be published/posted during the appropriate week.

repair to/restoration of porches, roofs, and windows; foundation and sill repairs; and masonry repairs and chimney repointing on historic buildings owned or leased by eligible non-profit organizations. Buildings must be listed in the MA State Register of Historic Places or receive local historical commission verification of their significance in order to participate. National Register districts and local historic districts are included in the MA State Register. Active religious and school organizations are not eligible to apply.

For the full announcement, important dates, criteria, and program details, visit the website of Preservation Massachusetts at: www.preservationmass.org/ma-hp-grant-requirements-details. Questions about the program may be directed to scaplanson@preservationma.org

Letters of Inquiry are due **November 1**. Full applications are due February 20, 2026. Grant awards will be made in May 2026.

Fall Free Family Fun Festival

The Mattapoisett Lions Club, Annual Fall Free Family Fun Festival will take place at Shipyard Park in Mattapoisett on Saturday, **November 1**, from noon until 4:00 pm, rain date Saturday, November 8.

Fall Free Family Fun Festival will include hayrides around town, goody bag and pumpkin for each child, pumpkin patch, pumpkin bowling, pin the nose on the pumpkin, face painting, positive fortune telling, coloring station, music, Mattapoisett Fire Department fire truck and fire fighters, refreshments, and more, all free No registration required.

From the Files of the Rochester Historical Society

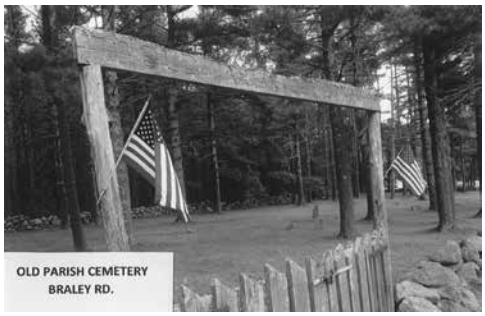
By Connie Eshbach

In historical circles, we've been doing a lot of talking about searching for Revolutionary War veterans. While there is plenty of online and book help, another resource is some but not all of the eight cemeteries in town as well as some in our neighboring towns. It's all about the dates of when the cemeteries were first used as burial grounds. We know that the Rochester Center Cemetery is old and the resting place for some of our earliest residents and that includes veterans of the fight for independence. Another town cemetery that is old enough to fit our search parameters is the Old Parish Cemetery.

This cemetery is on the east side of Braley Hill Rd. in North Rochester and has always been connected to Rochester's third parish. This is a cemetery with a distinctly rural feel. Two sides are bordered by woodlands and there is a stone wall around the perimeter. There is limited to no vehicle access. The land within the walls is flat with a tendency to become overgrown with vegetation.

While there are several broken stones (which is true in all of our older graveyards), the cluster of stones at the south corner are the oldest and made of slate. The earliest burial marked there is that of Ebenizer Lewis, 1708-1758, and the latest tombs date from 1857.

In some notes I found while looking through papers referenced two Revolutionary War veterans, Caleb Coombs and Samuel Shaw as being buried there. Coombs appears in our list of soldiers and sailors, but Shaw does not. However, looking at the records of burials for Old Parish, I found there was some question as to whether the letters carved into the old slate said Samuel Shaw or Samuel Snow. There is a Samuel Snow on our list of veterans. They also say that Caleb Coombs was a Reverend.


OLD PARISH CEMETERY
BRALEY RD.

Anyone searching for the graves of our Revolutionary soldiers should concentrate on the older cemeteries in Rochester, Marion and Mattapoisett. Remember that at the time of the Revolution and for the following 76 years, the town of Rochester included those two areas. Having said that older is better, the Woodside Cemetery next to the museum would not fit into that

Expires 10/31/25

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The *Wanderer*

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P.O. Box 102
Mattapoisett, MA 02739
Office:
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Telephone: 508-758-9055

Web Page: www.wanderer.com
E-mail:
General/Advertising:
office@wanderer.com
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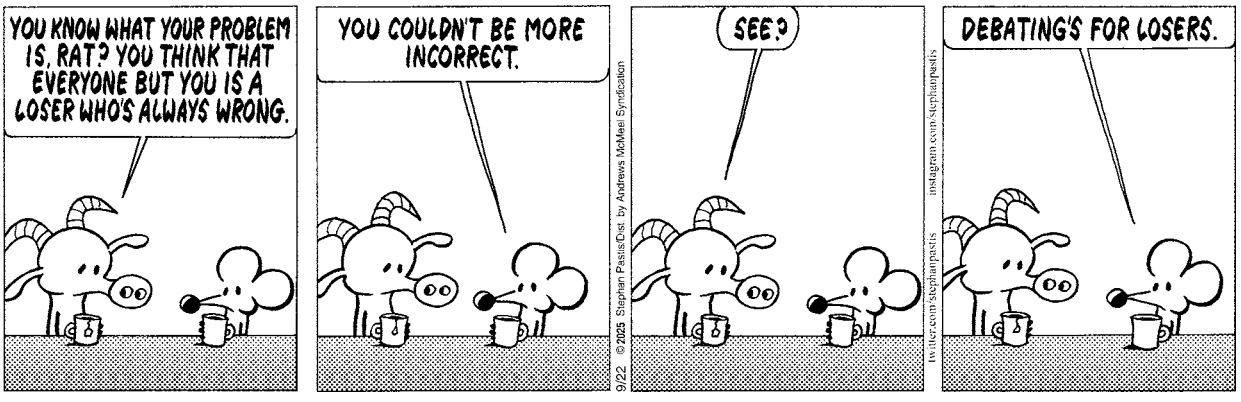
PEARLS BEFORE SWINE
by Stephan Pastis



category. The veterans there range from the Civil War through WW l and WW ll. However, far back among the trees is the grave of a Revolutionary War veteran, so you never know who you might discover on a walk through a cemetery.

Rochester Historical Society

Join us on **October 4**, for the Grand Opening of our newest exhibit: The Tools and Industries that made Rochester. It's a big exhibit which will be overflowing onto the front yard. We will also have our annual Cranberry Bake Sale and as always there will be fresh cranberries for sale. There will be some great raffles and all of our Rochester items will be for sale. This is a great time of year to order the exact style and color of any of our clothing items, if we don't have what you want in stock. Ordering in October means no worries about having a gift in time for the holidays.

There will a lot to see and do, so join us October 4 from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm at the Rochester Historical Society Museum at 355 County Rd. Rochester.

Our October meeting will be Mack Phinney speaking on "The Vanishing Screenhouse". That will be Wednesday, **October 15** at 7:00 pm at the museum. More on that later.

Upcoming Events at the Elizabeth Taber Library

The Elizabeth Taber Library will remain closed on Sundays for the remainder of 2025.

On Wednesday, **October 8** at 11:00 am The Cozy Cup Book Club will be discussing Rita Mae Brown's Claws for Alarm. As always there is free tea and coffee. Copies are available at the circulation desk in the Library. Registration requested.

Join us in welcoming Jeff Belanger back to the Elizabeth Taber Library with Wicked Strange New England: Your Guide to Ghosts, Monsters, Oddities and Urban Legends from New England, Friday **October 10** at 6:00 pm. Copies of Jeff's newest work will be available for purchase during the program. No Registration required.

The Banned Book Club will meet at the Library on Tuesday **October 14** at 6:00 pm to discuss the horror classic Dracula by Bram Stoker. All are welcome to attend, find copies available at the circulation desk.

October 25 at 10:30 am, Adult Craft Drop-in. Stop by to create a book pumpkin, cross stitch a pattern, or paint a fall scene. No Registration Required

The Elizabeth Taber Library is hosting author Gwendolyn Wallace for a reading and author talk on Saturday, **October 4** at 1:00 pm. Gwendolyn is the author of picture books Joy Takes Root, The Light She Feels Inside, and Dancing with Water. This program is best for kids ages 5+ and their grownups - but all are welcome.

Kids can sign up now for our October kids book clubs. These groups will meet on Thursday at 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm. Nonfiction Nerds - a club for readers who love facts or need a little help while reading - will meet Thursday, **October 2** to discuss When Moon Became the Moon. Grab a copy at the circulation desk today.

Real Estate Transactions

See past listing on our website: www.wanderer.com

Buyer(s)	Seller(s)	Address	City	Date	Price
Oliver, David M Oliver, Ellen M	KP Realty Invest LLC	25 Main St	Marion	09/04/2025	810,000.00
Keniry, Geoffrey L Keniry, Deborah T	Brewer, Devlyn I	12 Mattakiset Rd	Mattapoisett	09/04/2025	655,000.00
Goble, Kathryn	Mort, Susan	110 Acushnet Rd	Mattapoisett	09/04/2025	570,000.00
Hackett, Timothy Nilsen, Heidi	Leaf, Jonathan William Leaf, Christine L	25 Brant Beach Ave	Mattapoisett	09/04/2025	745,000.00
King, Edward King, Michele Medeiros, Kevin Medeiros, Christina	Mccarthy, Brian TR Burrill, Laura TR Patricia A Mccarthy MT	31 Main St	Mattapoisett	09/05/2025	600,000.00
Hartnett, John F Jacobs, Kathleen A	Hartnett, Edward M	43 Mattapoisett Neck Rd	Mattapoisett	09/09/2025	400,000.00
Schluter, Jean E Ryan, Jean E	Cawley, Susan R Ryan, Susan M Cawley, Christopher R K	22 Angelica Ave	Mattapoisett	09/09/2025	400,000.00

off the mark by Mark Parisi

Local Tides

Day	Date	High a.m.	High p.m.	Low a.m.	Low p.m.
Thursday	September 25	10:49	11:08	3:53	4:35
Friday	September 26	11:26	11:48	4:28	5:13
Saturday	September 27		12:07	5:04	5:53
Sunday	September 28	12:33	12:53	5:44	6:43
Monday	September 29	1:22	1:44	6:32	7:59
Tuesday	September 30	2:13	2:38	7:37	9:41
Wednesday	October 1	3:09	3:36	9:00	10:40
Thursday	October 2	4:09	4:39	10:18	11:21
Friday	October 3	5:11	5:37	11:18	11:56
Saturday	October 4	6:05	6:29		12:08
Sunday	October 5	6:54	7:16	12:31	12:55
Monday	October 6	7:41	8:03	1:07	1:43
Tuesday	October 7	8:27	8:51	1:46	2:32
Wednesday	October 8	9:15	9:40	2:28	3:22
Thursday	October 9	10:04	10:32	3:12	4:12
Friday	October 10	10:57	11:27	3:58	5:02
Saturday	October 11	11:54		4:45	6:00
Sunday	October 12	12:26	12:56	5:36	7:47

Phases of the Moon		
	First Quarter	September 29th
	Full Moon	October 6th
	Last Quarter	October 13th
	New Moon	October 21st

I Found the Aardvark!

Each week, hidden somewhere in the pages of *The Wanderer* is a tiny drawing of an aardvark. The little guy you are looking for looks exactly like the one pictured above (but don't put down this page as your answer, there's another one hidden somewhere in this issue).

Once you find the aardvark you can submit your answer on line and if you are right you will get Aardvark Points! You can then use these points to get cool Aardvark Prizes!

To enter visit: www.wanderer.com and Click on ***I Found the Aardvark***

In the September 18, 2025 edition the Aardvark was on page 32

PUZZLE ANSWERS

CROSSWORD SOLUTION

P	A	R	I	S	■	A	S	S	N	■	O	A	H	U	■	D	E	M	O	N
A	M	I	N	O	■	W	A	K	E	■	O	M	A	N	■	O	R	O	N	O
P	A	N	C	A	K	E	M	I	X	■	P	A	S	S	M	U	S	T	E	R
A	N	K	A	R	A	■	O	P	T	I	■	■	H	E	A	R	T	H	■	■
L	A	S	■	■	R	I	A	L	■	L	A	M	A	R	R	■	■	B	E	E
■	■	■	G	R	A	S	■	A	L	L	M	A	N	■	C	O	B	A	L	T
P	A	T	M	E	T	H	E	N	Y	■	P	E	A	C	H	M	E	L	B	A
E	T	R	A	D	E	■	L	E	F	T	■	S	H	A	■	E	C	L	A	T
T	H	I	N	S	■	U	P	S	T	A	R	T	■	L	E	N	O	■	■	■
S	E	E	■	K	I	R	A	■	■	C	A	R	O	L	S	■	O	A	F	S
P	E	R	R	Y	M	A	S	O	N	■	P	O	L	O	M	A	L	L	E	T
A	L	S	O	■	A	N	O	N	Y	M	■	■	D	U	E	L	■	L	E	A
■	■	■	T	O	N	I	■	G	Y	M	N	A	S	T	■	T	A	N	D	Y
S	M	E	A	R	■	U	G	O	■	M	A	R	A	■	B	I	R	E	M	E
P	O	S	T	A	L	M	A	I	L	■	P	O	W	E	R	M	O	W	E	R
E	O	C	E	N	E	■	S	N	A	R	E	S	■	R	Y	A	N	■	■	■
D	N	A	■	■	M	A	G	G	I	E	■	E	Z	R	A	■	■	A	B	S
■	■	P	O	S	A	D	A	■	■	S	O	F	A	■	N	O	P	U	L	P
P	R	E	T	T	Y	M	U	C	H	■	P	R	I	N	T	M	E	D	I	A
D	U	E	T	O	■	E	G	O	S	■	T	O	R	E	■	I	T	E	M	S
A	E	S	O	P	■	N	E	W	T	■	S	M	E	E	■	T	E	N	P	M

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Action; 2. Invent;
3. Hermit; 4. Waiver

Today's Word

MOWER

Sudoku Answer

5	7	2	6	3	9	1	8	4
8	9	6	5	1	4	7	2	3
4	1	3	8	2	7	6	9	5
2	6	7	4	5	1	9	3	8
1	8	4	9	7	3	2	5	6
3	5	9	2	6	8	4	1	7
9	3	5	1	4	6	8	7	2
7	4	8	3	9	2	5	6	1
6	2	1	7	8	5	3	4	9

off the mark by Mark Parisi

Friends' marketplace at PLUMB CORNER

SALE EFFECTIVE:
Friday, September 26 to Thursday, October 2, 2025

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Near East Side Dishes — 2/$4

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Food Should Taste Good Tortilla Chips — $3.49

6 oz. Selected Variety
Blue Diamond Almonds — $3.49

7.4-8.98 oz. Selected Variety
Nature Valley Granola Bars — 2/$6

32-64 oz. Half & Half or Selected Variety
Stonyfield Organic Milk — $4.99

16 oz. Selected Variety
Hood Cottage Cheese — $3.19

24 oz. 6 pk. Selected Variety
Mott's Applesauce
2/$6

8 oz. Selected Variety
Food Club Shredded Cheese
2/$5

32 oz. Selected Variety
Brigham's Ice Cream
$3.99

CHEF PREPARED

4 ct.
Deviled Eggs — $5.99

Mediterranean
Chickpea Salad — $9.99 ea

16 oz. Pkg. With Roasted Vegetables & Feta Cheese
Orzo Salad — $9.99

Fresh
Garden Side Salad — $6.99 ea

Various Styles
Take & Bake Pizza — $8.99 ea – $10.99 ea

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	Small	Large
Chicken Pot Pie	$13.99 ea	$19.99 ea
Shepherd's Pie	$12.99 ea	$19.99 ea

BAKERY

4 ct. Pkg. Selected Variety
Fresh Baked Brownies — $3.99

Loaf
Store Baked Garlic Bread — $3.49

WINE

Decoy - 750 ml. California
Merlot — $19.99 Reg. - $22.99

Justin - 750 ml. California
Cabernet Sauvignon — $26.99 Reg. - $29.99

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Zinfandel — $13.99 Reg. - $16.99

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Fresh, Boneless
Pork Roast
$4.49 lb

12 oz. Pkg. Original
North Country Smokehouse Applewood Bacon — $7.99

24 oz. Pkg.
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Friends' Turkey Breast — $10.49 lb

Deli Sliced
Boar's Head Buffalo Chicken — $11.99 lb

Deli Fresh
Store Made Chicken Salad — $11.99 lb

Deli Fresh
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Store Packaged Red Bliss Potato Salad — $6.99 lb

10 oz. Pkg. Selected Variety
Boar's Head Hummus — 2/$7

7 oz. Pkg.
Boar's Head Irish Cheddar Cheese — $6.99

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SALE EFFECTIVE: Friday, September 26 to Thursday, October 2, 2025

BLOCKBUSTER SAVINGS!

Fresh, Boneless
Center Cut Pork Chops
$4.99 lb

18-19 oz. Selected Variety
Vegetable Classics
Progresso Soup
2/$5

6.7-7.33 oz. Selected Variety
Stacy's Bagel or Pita Chips
$3.49

Fresh
Bell & Evans Split Chicken Breasts
$5.49 lb

12 oz. Selected Variety
Bear Naked Granola
$4.99

16 oz. Selected Variety
Non-Dairy or
Ben & Jerry's Ice Cream
$5.49

QUALITY PRODUCE

Locally Grown
Apple Tote Bags — **$1.29 lb**

Fresh, California
Navel or Cara Cara Oranges — **$1.69 lb**

Fresh
Red Grapefruit — **2/$3**

Locally Grown
Acorn, Spaghetti, & Butternut Squash — **79¢ lb**

Fresh
Celery — **$1.99 ea**

2 lb. Pkg.
Yellow Onions — **2/$3**

SEE OTHER SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL GREAT SAVINGS THIS WEEK!